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FOR THE LITERARY MAGAZINE.

ON FORTUNE TELLING.

ONE who is not strongly fortified in incredulity will sometimes be half persuaded to believe in the pretensions of those who discover future or distant events, by other means than the ordinary ones of sight and hearing. A story shall be related, so directly, consistently, and circumstantially, that one who has not formed an invincible opinion, *a priori*, that it cannot be true, can scarcely refuse his assent.

As our knowledge, indeed, comes to be enlarged, and a few of the mysteries of this kind are unravelled, we are more disposed to admit the possibility of explaining all similar mysteries by the same means. Here is a story, which was once altogether marvellous; a discovery is made by some soothsayer, which appears to us impossible but by supernatural means; yet the means, when afterwards explained, turn out to be natural and simple. Hence when other exploits of a conjurer are related, no less marvellous and inexplicable than the former one, we naturally say, The old story was as wonderful as this, and the riddle as inexplicable, yet it was afterwards solved, in a plain and satisfactory manner: why may not this be explicable in the same manner?

The sceptical part of the world are not aware of the prevalence of the belief in supernatural powers, among the middle and lower class of mankind. The popularity of some fortune tellers is, indeed, wonderful, and many have been enabled to acquire considerable affluence by this mysterious trade. Very grave, shrewd, and experienced people, many who have natural good sense, and minds enlarged by observation, are fully convinced of the existence of this preternatural sagacity. They are willing to receive any *natural* explanation of appearances; but when neither reflection nor experience can solve the mystery in this manner, they deem themselves bound, by all the laws of just reasoning, to acquiesce in the pretensions of the wizard. As they have not reasoned themselves, *a priori*, into the belief that all such pretensions are chimerical, they are, of course, compelled to admit that so-

lution, when what we call a natural one is unattainable.

I shall not pretend to decide between the universal infidels and the qualified believers, or say to which party I should be inclined to adhere, were I obliged to take a part. Like Addison's creed, as delivered in one of his Spectators, respecting witchcraft, perhaps it would be safest to admit the possibility, in general, of such foresight or second sight, in a few individuals of the human race, but, at the same time, to refuse implicit credit to any particular case that may happen to reach us through the medium of any other evidence than that of our own proper senses. The little credit which is merited by almost all relations of this kind, is, I think, pretty forcibly illustrated in the two following cases:

A very grave and intelligent friend of mine lost a considerable sum of money. All his enquiries and reflections were unable to point out to him the way it had taken. After some hesitation, he resolved to apply to a gentleman of the same town, who had acquired, by some accident, the reputation of seeing further than other men. After stating all the circumstances of his loss to his friend, he was desired to go, at the dawn of the next day, to one of the churches of the place, which was named, and look under the broad stone, placed at the door of the church. There, he was told, he would find deposited the sum missing. He was charged to keep secret the result of this interview, till he had performed his expedition. He punctually obeyed the directions of the seer, and recovered his money. As the character and situation of the person applied to made it impossible for him to have been either the thief or the accomplice, the mystery, in this case, seems to have been as impenetrable as in almost any which can be imagined; and yet it was afterwards reduced to a very simple and obvious transaction, by the acknowledgment of the gentleman himself, on my venturing to apply to him for some satisfaction on the subject. He told me, that by carefully weighing all the circumstances of the case, as related by my friend, his suspicions were fixed upon a certain person, to whom, immediately after the interview, he wrote an anonymous letter, requiring him to deposit the money he had stolen, in the place above-described, at a certain hour, previous to the time fixed for the other's visit. His conjecture happened to be right, and the money was deposited accordingly: so that this effort of preternatural wisdom resolves itself into a mere superiority of penetration.

In the reign of Charles the second, a conjurer appeared in London, whose fame was quickly extended to the highest classes of society. His door was besieged, all day long, by coaches, so that many, after waiting a long time, were obliged to return home unsatisfied. Numberless were the instances reported of this man's miraculous insight into the private history and family intrigues of those classes of society, which could not be known, by any natural means, to one of the birth and education to be expected in a teller of fortunes. Anthony Hamilton's amusing history of the count de Grammont explains this mystery, and tells us that this conjurer was no other than the earl of Rochester, that shrewd, ingenious, but profligate nobleman, who assumed this disguise for the sake of more effectually sporting with the credulity of the age. Rochester, to an extensive and intimate acquaintance with the character and history of the individuals of the higher class, added great natural sagacity, and keen perception into the habits and foibles of mankind. We may easily conceive how much his communications must have astounded his visitants, and how many of them would transcend the utmost exertions of sagacity to explain in a natural manner.

L.

For the Literary Magazine.

MARCIA THE VESTAL.

A YOUNG lady being called upon for a Latin motto to a wedding-ring, gave....

Felices nuptæ! moriar ni nubere dulce est.

which may be rendered into humble English thus....

Let me die if I don't think it a fine thing to be married.

A beautiful and most happy application. The history of this line, which every joyous bride and bridegroom may, with much propriety, adopt, is somewhat curious. A Roman vestal, though allowed many honours and privileges, was subjected to the most rigid obligations of chastity. A dreadful punishment awaited the breach of this duty.

Marcia was irreproachable in her deportment, and, for this and every other sanctity and excellence, was thought worthy of the chief place among the sisterhood; but, unfortunately, she made acquaintance with a youth recently married, whose conversation pleased her better than any thing else.

One day, meditating on her friend's engaging character, she carelessly, and, as it were, impromptu, wrote upon her tablets the above line. This fell into the hands of an envious sister, and formed the basis of an accusation which brought the ill-fated lady to the horrid punishment of being buried in a dungeon, and starved to death.

For the Literary Magazine.

BRITISH PUBLIC OFFICES.

THE number of individuals employed, and the whole amount of the emoluments accruing in some of the public offices of Great Britain, in the year 1784, are exhibited in the following table:

	No.	*Pay.*
1. Secretaries of state's office	60	£. 22,000
2. Treasury	59	39,000
3. Admiralty	36	27,000
4. Treasury of navy	50	20,000
5. Commissioners of navy	120	43,000
6. Dock yards	236	36,120
7. Sick and hurt office	26	3,600
8. Victualling office	68	34,280

This *sum* equally divided between this *number* would give to each about 346l. In fact, however, the highest compensation is about 5000l., and the lowest 30l. a year.

Query. What are the number of persons employed, and the amount of money annually expended, in the public offices of the United States?

For the Literary Magazine.

RIDDLES.

A RIDDLE is the description of a thing by some property which, though strictly its own, is apt to escape a brief or superficial observation. When it is discovered, we feel a pleasure in the proof it affords us of our own sagacity, and are struck with agreeable surprise, in perceiving the existence of a quality or relation before unsuspected. In this point of view, a riddle is certainly undeserving of all that contempt which it is the fashion to bestow upon it. There are many persons of excellent understanding and extensive knowledge, who could not forgive themselves for bestowing a single thought on the solution of a riddle.

There are two kinds of riddles; one of which relates to what we may call the historical or physical properties of things, and the other which depends for its detection or solution on calculation only. The latter sort of riddles appear never to have awakened the contempt of mathematicians. On the contrary,

the most eminent mathematicians have not disdained to devote a great deal of time and labour to the solution of mysteries, which deserve no better name than riddles. The famous puzzle of *squaring the circle* has perhaps obtained some attention from every pupil of the mathematics. The greatest abilities have been occasionally employed in making the knight move into all the squares of the chess-board, in succession, without passing twice over the same. Volumes have been written to show the number of ways in which the words in the following hexameter—" Tot tibi sunt dotes, Virgo, quot sidera cælo," may be differently arranged, without destroying the measure. Now the merit of such questions as these, the claim they have to our attention, seems to consist altogether in their difficulty, a difficulty which requires nothing but perseverance in calculation to surmount. But those riddles, of which Swift's enigmatical description of " a pen" may be mentioned as an example, seem in their discovery to add much more materially to our stock of ideas, and to be far more excusable engrossers of our time, than the mathematical enigmas.

I cannot help avowing my approbation of riddles in a speculative way, and this, Mr. Editor, you will probably think rather an adventurous undertaking. And yet I feel disposed, just now, to be guilty of a deed of still greater temerity, and not only to justify the propounder of enigmas, but to become myself an actual propounder. The following, I believe, if not absolutely new, are yet far from being hacknied, and may afford momentary diversion to some of your less austere readers.

1. I always stand upon four legs, and move about upon eight.

2. I have three legs, two of which support myself, and the third supports me and the burthen laid upon me.

3. I have two legs, yet cannot stand without support. Unless upheld by some kind hand, I am obliged to lean against a wall, and that, a kward as it is, is my usual posture.

4. I cannot stand alone but on four legs, yet frequently support my burthen standing upon two only.

5. I never breathe but through my nose, and I never breathe without snoring.

For the Literary Magazine.

A SPECIMEN OF AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT.

Extracted from the correspondence of a traveller in Scotland.

——THE northern estate called C——, contains about twenty-five thousand acres, and consists of a roundish piece of land, jutting out into the Irish sea, connected, by a narrow peninsula, with the main land of ————shire. The wonders wrought in this little territory, by the genius of the proprietor, are still more remarkable than those effected in W——, because its condition was far more desolate and forlorn, when it came into his possession. Its general aspect was that of sterile mountains, whose summits were roughened with rocks, and whose sides were covered with bog and moss, and overrun with heath and fern. Scarcely a fruit or timber tree was any where to be seen..... Near the coast a species of negligent and slovenly cultivation took place. About ten thousand acres, or two-fifths of the whole, was divided into two hundred farms, each, on an average, consisting of fifty acres, and containing, on the whole, about fourteen hundred persons..... Four hamlets, or villages, composed of cottagers and petty tradesmen, contained, in all, one hundred and eight miserable dwellings, and about six hundred inhabitants. The chief town was C———, containing five hundred houses, and two thousand seven hundred people. The method of culture, with the farmers,

was as defective, and the style of living among all classes in this district was as mean and comfortless, as can well be imagined. The whole was divided into five parishes, the town of C——— being one. The pastors in each gleaned a miserable pittance of about fifty pounds a year, and the people being of the English church, the stipend of the clergy consisted, except in the town, of the contribution called tythe. Five little schools subsisted, one in each parish, where the elements of knowledge were taught for the scanty recompence of twenty pounds a year.

Previous to sir A——'s time the landlord resided wholly in London, and the only functions of a landlord he ever dreamt of exercising, were those of naming a steward to collect his rents. In this choice he was directed only by pecuniary calculation. He who made the most punctual and liberal remittances was the most acceptable. To the steward, frequently ignorant and mercenary, was transferred all the power of the landlord; and, as his conduct was under the influence of only two motives, to enrich himself, and to satisfy the cravings of his principal, we may easily imagine under what vexations and oppressions the poor tenantry laboured. Notwithstanding the ingenuity of these stewards, not a little sharpened by their own wages being fixed at a certain proportion of the sums raised, they were never able to collect a larger annual sum than seven thousand five hundred pounds. The cultivated land paid about five shillings an acre, the cottages and gardens, annexed to them, about forty shillings a piece; and the houses in town about ten pounds a piece. Out of this sum, however, little more than five thousand ever came into the hands of the proprietor, with which his indolence was satisfied.

Such was the condition of the cultivated portion of the estate, while two-fifths of the whole was a naked and dreary waste, from which the neighbouring farmers and cottagers were allowed to collect a little peat and a few sticks as firing, and on which a few sheep and cattle browzed in summer time. In the midst of this wild, which was dignified with the name of C——— forest, was situated an old crazy mansion, a part of which was kept in habitable order by the steward, for his own residence, but whose outworks and enclosures had been long gone to decay.

The marriage of the heiress of the C——s to sir A——, put this large estate, with all the authorities and territorial jurisdictions annexed to it, into his hands. It afforded him a noble field for the exercise of his talents, and he lost no time in carrying his schemes of improvement into execution. He visited C——— in person, took a careful survey of the whole, banished all the official vermin who had hitherto preyed upon the vitals of the people, and supplied their place by agents whose capacity and integrity had been well tried.

After rectifying the obvious errors and abuses which had crept into the *stewardship* of this domain, he turned his thoughts to the condition of the waste land. An exact survey being made of C——— forest, it appeared that, among the fifteen thousand acres of which it consisted, not more than seven hundred and fifty were absolutely incapable of being cultivated. These were so encumbered with bare rocks as to make them altogether refractory.

Of the residue about *three thousand acres* were devoted to plantations. Spots, incapable of producing a single blade of corn, were found able to support the stately pine or spreading oak. The soil beneath improved yearly in fertility, from the leaves which fell, and the shelter afforded by wood. Thus a considerable extent of ground became really entitled to the appellation of forest, which had formerly been conferred upon the whole. In the course of forty years the ground was overshaded by lofty trees, whose

loppings afforded firing to the whole district, and whose superfluous growth afforded, for all the purposes of the carpenter, the timber which the district had formerly been obliged to procure at a distance.

At the end of twenty-five years this wood began to reward the planter by a revenue of at least five shillings an acre, so that he derived, from what had been wholly unproductive before, an income of seven hundred and fifty pounds a year.

The larger portion of the waste, about seven thousand acres, was a wet and spungy soil, which had always been deemed worthless and irreclaimable. The spade, however, was now diligently set to work, and, in a short time, all the superfluous moisture being drawn off, the whole was converted into excellent upland pasture. The land, properly prepared and enclosed, was divided into seven sheep farms, and an ample stock of the suitable breed of sheep was imported from the heights of Cumberland. By placing these farms under provident and skilful management, for several years together, the produce of this tract, in wool, peltry, and mutton, has been more than equal to fifteen shillings an acre, one third of which has been fixed as a reasonable proportion for the rent, so that, by this method of improvement, seven thousand acres of moor has been made to produce an annual income to the landlord of two thousand three hundred pounds, and of twice that sum to the immediate cultivators. The hands necessary to each of these farms, and their families, amount to about twenty persons, and their stock to two thousand sheep, five cows, and five horses, with swine and poultry in abundance. By these means thirty-five horses, and thirty-five cows, and fourteen thousand sheep were added to the stock, and one hundred and fifty persons to the population of the barony. The annual produce has generally been about thirty-five thousand pounds of wool, and thirty-five hundred sheep. The greater part of the wool being exported, this branch of commerce, though inconsiderable, contributes to increase, in some degree, the employment and thrift of the town and its inhabitants.

The surface of the whole waste appeared at first to be wholly barren and uncultivable. On the experiment being made, however, a stratum of excellent marle was found in many places, beneath the surface. By a proper use of this valuable substance, no less than twenty-two hundred and fifty acres were converted into excellent arable land. This portion was divided into small farms or homesteads of five acres.

These little farms were furnished with neat and substantial dwellings and barns, the fields were completely hedged, or fenced, or ditched, and tenants admitted, under strict conditions as to the mode and objects of their cultivation. Each farm was divided into five fields, and a certain rotation of crops established in each. It was sir A——'s notion that this quantity of ground could be adequately tilled and managed without the aid of the horse and plough, and with the spade only, by the farmer and his family alone, leaving them, at the same time, a large portion of their time to be employed either in some mechanical occupation, or in labouring for their neighbours, whose farms were of greater extent.

Each of these farms maintain a cow and calf, a sow with a brood of pigs, with abundance of poultry. It affords potatoes and garden products, forming an ample subsistence, in this kind of food, for a numerous family, and a quantity of grain equal to fifty bushels at least.

These farms are not intended to enrich the possessors, nor to afford them their whole employment..... They are merely to afford a sure refuge from that poverty, which the want of regular employment might produce to the journeyman or labourer, to enlarge his comforts, promote his health, and encrease his

independence, and all these valuable ends are fully accomplished by this arrangement.

The advantages of such an establishment to the sober and thrifty poor are so obvious, that sir A—— found no difficulty in filling his little farms with industrious tenants, the moment they were ready to be occupied, and, by this means, he has increased the *useful* population of his territory by very near three thousand persons; he has enlarged its farming stock by near a thousand head of cattle; he has added to its annual produce twenty-two thousand five hundred bushels of grain, which the corn-dealer eagerly accepts for a sum not less than six thousand pounds; and he has added to his own revenue, as rent, upwards of two thousand five hundred pounds a year.

The remainder of this waste has been converted, by an elaborate system of draining, into excellent watered meadow. This tract amounts to two thousand acres, has been devoted to breeding cattle, and produces a clear rent of three thousand pounds a year.

It thus appears, that a naked and desolate waste, always dreary to the eye, injurious to the health, and detrimental to the climate, has been converted into a smiling and busy scene of cultivation; that, in the course of a few years, upwards of three thousand persons were added to the population of the district, and a clear annual revenue created of eight thousand five hundred and fifty pounds.

These schemes of improvement, however, were far from engrossing the proprietor's attention. He, at the same time, was active in devising means for improving the fertility of the portions already cultivated, and bettering the condition of the inhabitants. The farms, whose extent already was, in general, about fifty acres, he divided into portions of twenty-five acres; he not only erected new buildings on the new farms thus created, but he demolished the hovels which previously existed on the old farms, and supplied their places with new, commodious, and substantial edifices. By a judicious system of rewards, by importing farmers from his English estate, whose example was a visible and intelligible lesson to his ancient tenants, he quickly banished the old defective modes of cultivation, with the indolence and poverty which followed it.

Under their ancient lords, the principal employment of the peasantry was fishing. They were satisfied if they could glean from their fields a miserable harvest of oats, just sufficient to provide the year with bread, and of barley sufficient to keep a distillery of whiskey employed, and to supply their own cravings for that infatuating liquid, and of hay for winter's food to a horse and cow. On the produce of their fishery they relied for the annual portion of their food, and by the sale of the surplus in the neighbouring towns, they were enabled to pay their rent, and purchase such clothing as they could not do without. Agriculture was an object of secondary importance in their view: they applied to it with murmuring and reluctance. If fifty acres supplied them with bread and whiskey, it was all they exacted from it. About two acres in oats, two in barley, and four or five in grass for hay, with the rest of the farm in pasture, was the ordinary state of things. The use of manure was too troublesome and artificial. They moved the plough yearly from one portion to another, and each field enjoyed a fallow of six or eight years.

Sir A——, by introducing potatoes, turnips, and carrots, by establishing a rotation of crops, and by carefully collecting and applying manures, has raised the produce of twenty-five acres to five times the produce of the ancient farm of fifty. Each family derives its whole vegetable and animal subsistence and clothing from a field of five acres, while the produce in corn and cattle of the remaining twenty is gene-

rally equal in value to five pounds an acre, or a hundred pounds in the whole. Only one fourth of this is demanded by the landlord as rent. The remaining seventy-five pounds may be laid up, expended in additional improvements, or a revenue derived from it as stock in trade, or a capital at interest, or employed in luxury and show.

The ancient tenant found it difficult to scrape together twelve pounds ten shillings, in ready money, to answer the yearly calls of the steward. He owed this difficulty to his slothful and intemperate habits, and his attachment to the precarious and unprofitable life of a fisherman. The present tenant has been weaned from the sea by the superior profits and security of tillage, and sir A—— allows no spirits to be distilled within his barony, and none to be imported or sold within his jurisdiction. For a farm of half the extent he pays double the rent, and still finds himself surrounded with comforts, and growing in opulence.

As the indispensable motive to industry is the power of exchanging its products with facility, sir A—— paid particular attention to that class of his tenants who supplied the rest with articles imported from a distance, or manufactured by themselves, in exchange for the produce of the land. The want of capital, knowledge, and industry among his tenants, compelled him to supply the deficiency from his own purse, and from his own mental resources. Formerly nothing had been exported, in considerable quantity, but fish, and bread had sometimes been imported. Fish, under the new system, was wholly neglected, and a considerable surplus, in the products of husbandry, remained after the wants of the district were supplied. This surplus found ready purchasers, at fixed and reasonable prices, in the agents of sir A——. As the population of the villages and town rapidly encreased, in proportion to the population and produce of the country, and in consequence of the wise and equitable maxims of government adopted by the lord, this surplus of agricultural products gradually lessened, till it ceased altogether. As this product was more than sufficient to purchase all the articles of manufacture consumed within the district, or imported into it, a new class of workmen or manufacturers began to be formed, whose produce was sent abroad, and exchanged for money, and the population continued to encrease, till that point when it was sufficient to consume all the grain, though not all the meat, which the territory produced. In short, in thirty years after these improvements commenced, the villagers and townsmen exceeded eleven thousand five hundred, and the whole population of the estate, as ascertained by an exact census, was distributed as follows:

Little farmers, or cottagers	2,870
Great farmers	4,645
Sheep farmers	153
Villagers and townsmen	11,508
Total	19,176

The population, under the ancient family, amounted, as we have seen, to four thousand seven hundred persons. This number the wisdom of the present lord has more than quadrupled, and between the happiness, the moral and intellectual dignity of the present generation and the last, there is, as you will readily imagine, still less similarity than there is in point of numbers.

It was a maxim of the C——s never to alienate any portion of their landed property, or to part with any of the rights and privileges they possessed as territorial lords. Their estate, whether house or land, was occupied, universally, by tenants at will, nor could any motive, springing from indolence, facility, or avarice, induce them to grant leases for a longer term than a year. This system can only be ascribed to the lust of power, for the rights of a landlord, extending over a consider-

able district, confers a more despotic authority than any form of law has ever directly conferred. The landlord can, at pleasure, and without the least regard to consistency or equity, deprive a tenant of his field and habitation, from which he obtains food and shelter, and banish him from haunts familiar, perhaps, to his infancy, and dear to his heart. To the ignorant and simple, this banishment is proportionally severe, and though apparently a mere exclusion from the precincts of a single estate, may in reality condemn the victim to despair or famine, by his inability to procure a subsistence by other means, or in other places, than that to which he has been accustomed. This power is particularly absolute and terrible, because more liable than other kinds of authority to abuse. Public opinion does not controul or restrain its exercise, since it is cloaked by the privilege allowed to every man of doing what he will with his own.

In addition to his power as a landlord, his wealth and influence gave him of course the power of naming the justice of the peace for this district. In this capacity he exercised the right of naming and commissioning all the subordinate officers of justice, of enforcing the payment of debts from one tenant to another, by the sale of the debtor's effects, or the imprisonment of his person, of punishing all offences less than capital, by hard labour and imprisonment, at his own discretion. By such direct and indirect means, you may easily imagine that no power could be more despotic than that of the lords of C——, within the precincts of their own estate. The life, liberty, and property of their subjects were held, in fact, by no other tenure than their lord's pleasure, controuled by no other circumstance than that which is incident to every political tyranny, the chance of running into voluntary banishment.

All these privileges sir A. received in right of his wife, with a resolution not to impair them. The improvements he projected were, indeed, of such a nature as to require an unlimited authority. Nobody can, in their own opinion, have too much power, and luckily, in this case, for those subjected to it, it was impossible for sir A—— to possess too much, since its whole energies were directed to nothing but the happiness of others.

This unbounded authority only could enable him to do as much as he did: but this power alone would have been insufficient. Had not his designs been seconded by a very large revenue, his good purposes would have availed nothing.

The rents of C——— had been entirely expended, by the ancient family, on the unmeaning luxury and barren ostentation of a London life. Sir A—— appropriated the whole of them to his plans of improvement. His reformations immediately increased the income to eight thousand pounds, and all his improvements were of such a kind, as immediately, in some degree, to augment this income.

When it is considered, that the greater part of these improvements required nothing more than well-directed labour on the spot, that ten thousand pounds a year will purchase all the industry and ingenuity of four hundred workmen, and that a sum much larger than this was annually employed in digging, planting, and building, for thirty years together, we shall not much wonder at the great effects that have been produced.

These improvements were generally, in themselves, though highly useful and magnificent, yet not of a costly nature. He built solid, lofty, and spacious edifices, full of the grandeur and grace of proportion and convenience, but the materials are produced upon the spot, and cost nothing but the labours of the quarry. A fine white free-stone, easily wrought, but acquiring great hardness and solidity in the air, every where abounded.

Sir A. was not more anxious to keep his own property and power

unimpaired, and to raise the condition of his tenants to a certain degree of opulence, than to keep them stationary. To have suffered any of them to raise himself considerably above his equals, would have been to mar the very foundation of his schemes. The accumulation of money and stock could not be easily prevented, but the whole landed property remaining in his own hands, it was optional whether to permit any other individual to obtain the rights of a landlord or not.

In consequence of this system, he was able to give what face he thought proper to the whole district. He regulated, at will, the situation of towns and villages, and gave what form his fancy preferred to dwellings and avenues. The old crazy town in a short time disappeared, and a new one rose in a different situation. A simple, elegant, homogeneous plan was contrived, which has rendered the future town the most beautiful in Europe.

The town received accessions of inhabitants faster than accommodations could be supplied them. Sir A—— limited the population to ten thousand, and was obliged to exert his utmost authority and steadiness in restraining the concourse of strangers. The number of houses amounted to a thousand, and the rental amounts, at present, at only twenty-five pounds from each house, to twenty-five thousand per annum.

The scite of this town is a lofty and level space, forming pretty nearly a parallelogram, on the northern side of C——— bay. It is bounded by the sea-shore on the south, and sheltered on the north by some rising grounds. It is a little more than half a mile in length, and about fifteen hundred feet broad. There is no other situation equally extensive within the bounds of the estate, so favourable for a town as this. It is placed at the bottom of one of the safest harbours in the kingdom; safe not only from the fury of the elements, but from all external attacks. Formerly, as the village contained nothing worth pillaging, the harbour was open and defenceless, but sir A—— thought it necessary to protect his city by a fortification. Except at the entrance of this harbour, the whole coast of C——— is formed by a rocky precipice, which bounds a shallow strand, on which the waves break in a tremendous surf. The harbour opens between two lofty points, one of which juts out towards the other, so as to allow a narrow passage to the waters of about four hundred feet wide. On this point a complete bastion was erected, with the permission of the government, at sir A——'s expence. He and his successors are, by patent, constables or keepers of this fort, which is garrisoned by thirty men, and supplied with artillery and ammunition, at his own expence.

In the heights above the town there is a very exuberant spring, called Holwell. It bursts in a very powerful torrent from the side of a rock, and forms a considerable rivulet, which falls into the harbour, at the upper end. From this well the town is supplied, in the greatest abundance, with the purest water. The soil is a dry firm gravel, overlaying a solid freestone rock.

The town consists of twelve rows of contiguous buildings. The length of each row or block is twenty-five hundred feet, its breadth fifty feet, and its height from seventy-five to a hundred feet. It is divided into five, six, and seven stories, from twelve to fifteen feet in height, and into separate dwellings from thirty to fifty feet in width.

Each row is separated from the ones adjacent by a street or avenue from seventy-five to a hundred feet broad. This space is divided into two footways and a middle way. The footways are paved with square stones, and are ten feet wide. The middle way has a double row of trees, and is composed of the native gravel, cemented together by mortar.

The plan, both internal and external, of these buildings is simple and uniform, and solid to a degree

that would generally be deemed superfluous. The walls in no case are less than three feet thick, and are composed of large blocks of freestone.

The scite of each row is three feet above the next one to the south of it, so as to form a kind of amphitheatre of twelve steps, each step being not less than one hundred and twenty-five feet broad, and three feet high.

This extensive mass of buildings is the absolute property of sir A——, and all the inhabitants are merely tenants from quarter to quarter. So precarious a tenure, and the impossibility of purchasing real estate of any kind within the district, might be expected to operate very powerfully against the progress of industry and population: but these disadvantages were amply counterbalanced, by the cheapness, convenience, and luxury of personal provision and accommodation, by the invariable equity with which the great power of the landlord was exercised, and the facility, among the middling and lower class of adventurers, of acquiring competence, of accumulating stock in goods and money.

In 1790, the following estimate was formed of the annual revenue derived by the landlord from this estate:

Woods -	750
Cattle farms -	8,000
Sheep farms - -	2,300
Cottage farms -	2,500
Large farms -	10,000
Houses -	28,500
	£. 47,050

For the Literary Magazine.

ON THE RECESSION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

THE recession of part of the district of Columbia appears, at present, to be the chief topic of political conversation, and engrosses the attention of congress. The motives of politicians are generally behind the screen, and public orators are accustomed to make use of every argument, in favour of their *motions*, except the one which really influences their own belief, and directs their own conduct. Thus it may be reasonably suspected, that those who recommend a recession desire a change in the seat of government. The extreme inconvenience of the present seat of government could not be imagined or forseen by those who formed the constitution, or by those who chose the banks of the Potowmack for this seat. If they had been imagined, they would have effectually prevented the clause in the constitution relative to a new metropolis. These inconveniences induce some of the members of congress to wish for removal, but a certain tenderness or veneration for what is called public faith hinders them from proposing this removal in direct terms.

Those, the value of whose property is supposed to depend, in some degree, upon the continuance of the government at Washington, are, of course, strenuous opposers of any motion, which has any tendency, however indirect, to this removal. Without any great breach of charity, may we not consider this as the true state of the controversy, carried on with so much warmth and eloquence? I think we may.

It seems to be generally admitted, that a removal would be a manifest breach of public faith, and that no considerations of public convenience will justify a breach of public faith. To call in question either the first or last of these positions will, no doubt, be thought a very rash proceeding, and yet it really seems to me very difficult to establish the truth of either of them, in relation to the present instance.

The plain state of the case appears to be this. The constitution permits the future congress to chuse its own place of residence. The

congress fixes on a certain spot of ground, on the banks of the Potowmack, which it declares, by law, to be hereafter the perpetual metropolis of the United States. Virginia and Maryland transfer all their political jurisdiction over the environs of the new metropolis to the general government, this being a condition prescribed by the constitution.

As the residence of government will naturally, in time, generate a city, and as a previous *plan* will contribute somewhat to the symmetry and splendour of the future city, a plan is drawn, and the scite distinctly distributed into building lots and avenues. As the population of America is in a rapidly progressive state, as the new city is expected to advance, under such favourable auspices, with even greater rapidity than the other cities of the country, and the value of its ground and houses to advance in the same proportion, an inviting field is immediately opened for the schemes of those who seek wealth by *speculation*. Land, within the pomœria of the new city, is greedily purchased, and houses hastily erected, the buyers and builders expecting to be amply remunerated for their pains and expence, by the rapidly increasing value of their property.

It is quickly discovered, however, that these hopes were too sanguine. The progress of the new city proves to be even less rapid than that of some settlements, which are supported by nothing but trade; that the stimulus, arising from the presence of the government, is an artificial and unnatural one, and far from supplying the place of those more ordinary agents, trade and commerce; that the necessary accommodations for the government must be raised and kept up at an unlooked for and enormous expence; and that, with all their efforts, a residence in the new city is incompatible either with comfort or health.

The golden dreams of the speculator consequently end in disappointment. His houses are untenanted and going to ruin, and his land either lies a dead burthen in his hands, or he disposes of it, if not at a less price than he gave, at least at a much less price than his fond imagination had anticipated. The present proprietor is obliged to moderate his views of profit, and to centre all his hopes in the continuance of the government where it is, for this, he knows, will operate to the creation of a town, slowly and gradually perhaps, but certainly, whereas the removal will make matters still worse than at present, and crush the city in its infancy.

It is by no means wonderful that those who have property, liable to be depreciated by a removal, should clamour very loudly against it; but it is very strange to me, I confess, that a removal should be reproached as a breach of public faith. In these simple and obvious facts, which appear to be the whole truth, what materials can be found for raising such a charge? what contract has the nation entered into with its citizens, on this head, by whch the future resolutions of its representatives are over-ruled or cramped?

Let it be admitted that some persons purchased land and built houses in the city or its neighbourhood, in the belief that the law, fixing the seat of government there, would never be repealed, a belief founded on the terms of this law, which declares this place to be the perpetual metropolis of the states: but why was that place originally chosen for the seat of government? Because it was thought, at that time, to be most eligible. Why was it made the perpetual seat? Because nobody could then forsee or imagine the circumstances which might hereafter render it ineligible. Why did the citizens rely on the perpetuity of this law, and buy and build on that persuasion? Precisely for the same reasons which influenced their representatives to make the law: a total ignorance, beforehand, of any inconveniences which might attend its execution. Nothing but

experience could possibly unfold these inconveniences, and therefore it was impossible for those who were obliged to judge and act without experience, to judge and act otherwise than they did. This law is precisely like any other law which declares the obligations it creates to be perpetual. Such declarations either imply a manifest absurdity, that one set of representatives have really more constitutional powers than any future set, or they amount merely to this, that these obligations shall be annulled and abrogated by no power less than that by which they were imposed.

Every body knows that the early purchasers and improvers presumed not only on the ultmiate progress of the place to the grandeur of a large city, but on its *rapid* progress to this point. They purchased and built not properly on the first supposition, because few or none lay out their money for the benefit of their remote posterity, but on the latter supposition. In this they have been wholly disappointed; and they might, with the same propriety, consider the public faith as bound to build a city, and to fill their houses with tenants, in a certain limited time, as at a distant and indefinite period. They are not, however, guilty of this absurdity. They ascribe their losses hitherto to physical and inevitable evils. To these, and not, *as yet*, to any breach of public faith, their injury already incurred is to be traced. A removal can add but little to the positive evil. By preventing the growth of the place into a great metropolis, it will materially affect the value and condition of the earth, circumscribed within certain limits, in a distant age, but the evil to the present generation will be found, upon a careful examination, to be very inconsiderable.

I am far, however, from intending to depreciate the losses which a removal from Washington may occasion to individuals. I mean only to maintain, that, in repealing or continuing the present law, the legislature is not fettered by any obligation arising from their predecessors having pledged the *public faith* for the fulfilment of their views by future legislatures. Some of the occasions in which *public faith* is supposed to be engaged for the continuance of a law, arise when the nation borrows money of its citizens, and promises to repay it in a certain time, or charges itself with the payment of a certain annual interest upon the sum; and when certain individuals are told, that if they contribute money and build a bridge over a certain river, the state will not allow any other bridge to be built in their vicinity, and will permit them to levy toll for a fixed period on all that pass their bridge; in these and similar cases a contract is made between the state and its citizens, supposed to be binding on successive legislatures. But the law, fixing the seat of government at Washington, contains no contract, express or implied, with any of the citizens. The residence of congress is supposed to benefit the owners of real property, wherever that residence is placed, and their removal, by occasioning this property to sink to its former value, is supposed to be detrimental to the owners. Thus New York and Philadelphia were supposed to be successively benefited and injured by the arrival and departure of the general government. In the same way, though, perhaps, to a greater extent, the owners of real property in Washington have been benefited by the residence of congress among them, and may be injured by their departure. But these consequences are of the same nature in all the three cases. They are merely incidental, and the government is no more answerable for them to the inhabitants of Washington, than to those of New York and Philadelphia.

The residence of congress was declared to be temporary at New York and Philadelphia, and to be perpetual at Washington. The consequences of removal from Washington may therefore be more inju-

rious to the people of the latter than of the two former cities; but this is a diversity only in degree; the mischief is precisely of the same nature.

But though there be no obligation, arising from an imaginary contract, in the government of the United States to continue at Washington, there is another obligation incumbent on the legislature in this as in all other cases: that of consulting the happiness and welfare of the citizens. In this, as in other cases, the legislature ought to intend, in the formation of laws, the good and not the evil of their country. The community is composed of individuals, and that which affects the happiness of individuals has a proportional influence on the well-being of the whole. In resolving to remove from Washington, the congress will be wise in proportion to the comprehensiveness of their view; in proportion as they extend their regards to all the consequences of the law. They will be criminal if they overlook totally the interest of the inhabitants of Washington, but they will likewise be criminal if they suffer the interests of *this* part to outweigh, in their breasts, the interests of all the other parts, or if they inflict an injury upon others by staying where they are, greater than that which will befal the people of the territory by removing elsewhere.

There is, however, an obvious method of reconciling all claims. The claims of the proprietors of ground in Washington to the presence of congress, let it be ever so sacred, cannot be more so than the right which every man enjoys to the possession and use of his own property; and yet, when the public benefit requires a new road to be carried through a district, or a street to be widened in a city, it has never been thought a breach of justice to extort from every man so much of his ground as the projected avenue requires, in spite of his resistance or refusal. This outrage on the sacred right of property is thought to be completely justified, merely by paying a reasonable compensation to the owner. If, therefore, the government should resolve to change its residence, it would fulfil every duty, both that arising from the sanctity of public faith and that arising from the relations of justice and beneficence which the state bears to all its citizens, by making a reasonable compensation to every one who shall suffer by the change. Preposterous as it may appear to some, to reimburse the expences of a house built with a view of finding a tenant in a public officer, and rendered useless by the removal of that officer elsewhere, yet this might be done, and the nation, on the whole, considerably benefited by the change.

This, though more than the strictest justice demands, would by no means still the clamours of those who wish the government to continue where it is, not to repair a loss actually incurred, or prevent one which the removal would occasion, but merely to secure to themselves the profits which they anticipate from the future progress of the city. Mankind are as much displeased by missing an advantage which they have in view, as by losing one they have in their possession; and those who owned their present property before the foundation of the city, and whose golden dreams a removal will dissipate, will be quite as loud in their reproaches and strenuous in their opposition, as those who have actually purchased ground and built houses since that event, and in consequence of their belief that the city would be permanent. It is evident that the complaints of the first deserve no regard. They lose nothing. They merely miss an opportunity of gaining; and if from the claims of the latter all that loss be deducted which has been already incurred, by the progress of the city being slower than was generally expected, how small will be the remaining balance which will justly be chargeable to the account of removal!

PRESTO.

For the Literary Magazine.

AMERICAN PROSPECTS.

I HAVE often heard it observed by travellers, that America contained nothing of the picturesque. This is very unaccountable. That part of the picturesque which arises from the elaborate arrangements of art, and especially from the architectural monuments of ancient times, it is true, we do not possess. No crumbling walls are scattered over our vallies; no ivy-clad tower reposes on the brow of our hills. How much the imagination is inspired by these memorials of former generations, with what solemn and ennobling elevation they fill the mind, are easily conceived, and these adjuncts are certainly wanting to the scenes of our country. Those who are accustomed to see nature constantly accompanied by ancient turrets or modern obelisks, by palaces and spires, by artificial lakes and water-falls, grow fastidious. The face of uncultivated nature, which contains no vestige of other times, nothing to hint of battles, sieges, or murder, is to them dreary, blank, and insipid.

Of those scenes, however, which are composed of the rude members of nature, of valley, precipice, and stream, it cannot be conceived that America is more destitute than other countries; and those districts, which have been settled eighty or a hundred years, cannot be denied to abound with all those ingredients of the picturesque, which arise from a full, though recent, population.

I have no where met with a more characteristic prospect than occurs in the travels of Mackenzie. It is worthy of the study of the Claudes and Poussins of the age, and will be read with uncommon interest by the people of a future age, who are acquainted with such scenes only by description.

"The precipice on which I stood," says this ingenious traveller, "rises upwards of a thousand feet above the plain beneath it, and commands a most extensive and romantic prospect. Hence the eye looks down on the course of the little river, by some called the Swan, and by others the Clear Water and Pelican, beautifully meandering upwards of thirty miles. The valley, at once refreshed and adorned by it, is about three miles broad, and is confined by two lofty ridges of equal height, displaying a most delightful intermixture of wood and lawn, and stretching on till the blue mist obscures the prospect. Some parts of the inclining heights are covered with stately forests, relieved by promontories of the finest verdure, where the elk and buffaloe find pasture. These are contrasted by spots where fire has destroyed the woods, and left a dreary void behind it. Nor, when I beheld this wonderful display of uncultivated nature, was the moving scenery of human occupation wanting to complete the picture.

"From this elevated situation I beheld my people, diminished, as it were, to half their size, employed in pitching their tents in a charming meadow, and among the canoes, which, being turned on their sides, presented their reddened bottoms in contrast with the surrounding verdure. At the same time, the process of gumming them produced numerous small spires of smoke, which, as they rose, enlivened the scene, and at length blended with the larger columns that ascended from the fires where the suppers were preparing. It was in the month of September when I enjoyed a scene of which I do not presume to give any adequate description; and, as it was the rutting season of the elk, the whistling of that animal was heard in all the variety which the echoes could afford it."

For the Literary Magazine.

PEMMICAN.

THE Canadians and northern Indians prepare meat in a way deserving of imitation. Armies, and

all those whose business it is to travel in desolate countries, without much equipage, in great numbers, or with great expedition, would find their account in a knowledge of the mode of making pemmican. The following is the method of preparing it:

The lean parts of the flesh of the larger animals are cut into thin slices, and placed on a wooden grate, over a slow fire, or exposed to the sun, and sometimes to the frost. These operations dry it, and, in that state, it is pounded between two stones; it will then keep for several years. If, however, it is kept in large quantities, it is liable to ferment in spring and summer, when it must be exposed to the air, or it will soon decay. The inside fat, and that of the rump, which is much thicker in wild than in domestic animals, is melted down and mixed, in a boiling state, with the pounded meat, in equal proportions; it is then put in baskets or bags, for the convenience of carrying it. Thus it becomes a nutritious food, and is eaten without any further preparation, or the addition of salt, spice, or any vegetable or farinaceous substance. A little time reconciles it to the palate.

For the Literary Magazine.

ON THE TITLE OF EMPEROR.

BONAPARTE having lately assumed the title of emperor, as the greatest his ambition could aspire to, naturally suggests an enquiry into the significance and history of this envied title. The veneration and splendour still annexed to this title is a striking proof of the permanence of political forms and national ideas. At very early periods, in the history of Europe, the chief of a tribe or nation seems to have been distinguished by an appellation equivalent to the Roman word rex, or the English word king. In one of the minute clans of Italy the *rex* being a hereditary dignity, and pertaining to a certain family, a petty revolution, by banishing this ruling family, and substituting an annual and elective chief instead of a perpetual and hereditary one, of course involved the ancient title in disgrace and odium. In the course of a thousand years, this state underwent the most extraordinary changes: from a territory ten miles square, and a population of two or three thousand, the territory enlarged into five millions of square miles, and their numbers swelled into a hundred millions. Still the head of this nation, though endowed with unlimited and hereditary power, adventured not to insult the prejudices of the Romans so much as to assume the title of *rex*. The title they bore was *imperator*, which really meant, in its original, no more than a successful military leader, was addressed tumultuously by soldiers in a conquering army to their general, and was retained by the chiefs of the state as their peculiar distinction, in addition to the legal or civil titles of dictator, consul, censor, pontifex maximus, and tribunus plæbis.

The chiefs of the conquered nations and tribes were called *reges*, and this name, by belonging to *strangers* and *subjects*, became gradually to imply, in itself, less power and less dignity than *imperator*, the appellation of the head of the Roman state. The barbarous tribes who destroyed this mighty state, and parcelled out its provinces among themselves, generally retained their pristine title of *rex*. Ancient opinion had consecrated that of *imperator*, not only to a more extensive dominion than any of these invaders had acquired, but to a power whose residence and centre should be Italy. The title, therefore, was perpetuated long after the empire that pertained to it had shrunk almost to limits as narrow as those of ancient Latium. Italy itself, however, was finally overwhelmed, and the name of emperor became extinct, till, in process of time, one among the bar-

barian kings arose, who extended his dominion over Italy and many of the western provinces of the fallen empire. *Pontifex maximus* had meanwhile become the title of the head of the Roman religion, and the Roman religion had become that not only of the new dynasties who had started up in the Roman empire, but of tribes who continued to dwell far beyond its ancient limits. By the consent of Rome and Italy, and the pontifex maximus, this mighty chief was installed *imperator Romanorum*, and his posterity retained this title, with its prerogatives, till Italy fell under subjection to a new family, the seat of whose power was placed in a country which lay beyond the limits of the ancient empire. This chief being a prince of Germany, and Germany forming one great political body, subordinate to one head, this head became emperor, and Germany forming the largest portion of his empire, acquired the title of the German empire.

With respect to Italy and Germany, the title is accompanied by genuine prerogatives and precedences, but, in the rest of christian Europe, the supreme dignity among its potentates has always been assigned to the *emperor* in consequence of the veneration that followed this dignity in ancient Roman times, and which has been transmitted though the medium of popular opinion. For a long time this dignity, in Europe, like that of pope, was thought to be indivisible, and the simple phrase, "*the emperor*," was always clearly understood. At the commencement of the eighteenth century, however, the lord of the Russian deserts, whose domains were situated without the pale of the great European republic, was seized with a strong desire of becoming a member of that great republic. He imagined himself entitled to enter on the scene in the most dignified guise, and therefore claimed the name of *imperator*, which seems to have been either expressly or tacitly allowed to him by other princes, though the Roman pontiff, in spite of very strong solicitations, always refused to sanction this pretension in him and his successors.

It is now easily perceived by what motives Bonaparte, whose power is as absolute as that of any prince in Europe, and whose subjects are more numerous and potent than any other of its nations, should be satisfied with no title less than that which usage and opinion has considered as the highest. He has, therefore, dubbed himself emperor. This dignity, being hereditary in him, was of course superior to that of the German or Roman emperor, which, though really hereditary, is nominally elective. The Austrian, therefore, to be even with the Frenchman, has, we are informed, determined to assume this title as a hereditary appendage. Some hints have been given us, indeed, that Spain and Prussia are seized with the same mania. If the new line of French emperors continues, Europe will no doubt be crouded with self-created emperors, and this title, sacred and venerable for eighteen centuries, will, like all other things, become insignificant by becoming common.

R. M.

For the Literary Magazine.

IMPROVEMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, TOPOGRAPHY, &c.

IT is a matter of the utmost importance, to every country, to possess a complete knowledge of the ground. Now, since the sciences of geography and topography appear heretofore imperfect, an easy and accurate method of laying down maps of mountainous countries and estates will perhaps prove useful, as it will show, at a single view, the true shape and comparative height of the ground, without the art of painting.

Seeing mountains are apt to eclipse each other, a perspective view is seldom very extensive, the

rules of which fall short of giving an accurate idea of any hilly country, because such a view, put upon paper, if strictly true in one particular place, can be so in no other. The altitudes of mountains appear in proportion to the distance from the eye, and no rule in geometry has proved sufficient to determine distances from any single station. Neither can a bird's-eye view of an estate ascertain the depth of vallies or the height of mountains.

Because it is equally capable of showing the true shape of any ground, above or below water, the proposed improvement may be successfully applied to sea charts, which will prevent much confusion, arising from the tiresome method of distinguishing soundings by great multitudes of figures, and will be found to possess the following advantages, with many others, too tedious to mention:

1st. One great pleasure of travelling lies in seeing the infinite variety in different countries composed of uneven ground. This method will afford, at a single view, the true shape of the surface, and will extend the pleasures of a journey to the shades of retirement.

2d. Experience has sufficiently shown, that the inhabitants of low grounds are subject to the yellow fever, and other kinds of sickness, which those living at places elevated to a certain degree are not subject to. A map on this improved plan will point out the most proper situations for building dwelling houses; it will be useful to the botanist for discovering or cultivating some kinds of plants, which flourish best at particular distances above the level of the sea; and will describe the line of vegetation on the sides of lofty mountains, whose tops are covered with eternal snow.

3d. Some high lands are known to produce good grain, while low land affords grass more abundantly: but most grounds produce good grass, over which a moderate quantity of running water can be conveyed. A plan of any country, in this way, will show all the ground that can be irrigated, where navigable canals may be cut, and where highways and rail roads may be laid out on the best and most level ground.

4th. The subterranean treasures of the mineral and fossil kingdoms are generally found in strata; if not truly horizontal, they make a certain angle with the horizon. A map on this projection will enable the mineralogist to examine any one stratum, at places far distant from each other, with more ease and accuracy.

5th. Commanders of armies are acquainted with the many advantages always to be gained from the possession of high ground. Thus we are enabled to give the comparative height of every hill, also the best rout where the heavy burthens may be drawn up with the most ease.

EXPLANATION.

To lay down the shape of Great Britain. First an accurate map of the outlines is laid down, in the common way. Then horizontal lines are run all round the island, at 100, 200, 300, 400 feet above the ocean. These may be taken with a good theodolite and spirit level annexed. To prove the work, the courses and distances will be cast up with tables of the difference of latitude and departure: if no error, each line will end where it began; and if the bearing and distances of these several horizontal lines are truly laid down on the map, the crooked courses of them will clearly show the true shape of the ground over which they pass, as the distances between the horizontal lines will be proportioned to the declivity. For example, if any horizontal line passes on the side of any steep hill or cleft, as at Dover, it will incline towards the ocean, or approach the next horizontal line below it. Again, when the same line crosses a valley, the said line will naturally incline towards the centre of the island, until it can

cross it without losing its level. Hence, after a little practice, the shape of these several horizontal lines on the map will give a clearer idea to the mind of the shape of the country over which they pass, than a sight of the country itself can convey to the eye. But to come at a mathematical certainty of the declivity on any part of the map, we have the following universal

PROPORTION.

As the perpendicular height of the horizontal lines above each other
Is to the radius,
So is the horizontal distance between the horizontal line, at any particular place,
To the co-tangent of the declivity.

Note. When the horizontal distance, between any two horizontal lines, on the map, is equal to the perpendicular height of the horizontal lines above each other, the angle of declivity and altitude will each of them always be equal to 45 degrees.

SOCIETY AT THE ADELPHI, LONDON.

The honorary medal of this society was voted to Mr. John Churchman, fellow of the Russian Imperial Academy of Sciences, for his new improvements in geography, topography, &c., which was presented to him, at the last annual public meeting, by his grace the duke of Norfolk, president. After answering a number of questions, Mr. Churchman made the following reply:

"May it please the president,

"Some great and learned men have oftentimes been observed to neglect almost every science, except one: to this alone they have paid so much attention, that they have had but little inclination for any thing else. Thrice happy are the members of the present institution, whose president can display such an infinite variety, and, like a well-discerning connoisseur, can treat each subject with a graceful learning. Now to conclude, I can with safety declare, that my happiness is truly great this day. One circumstance alone, I must except, stands in the way to make it quite complete: I fear my apprehensions may prove true, that this high honour is greater than my merit. This medal I will treasure up with care, which will be ever dear to my remembrance."

[The above communication has just been received by the Editor, in a letter from Mr. Churchman, dated London, October 27, 1804.]

For the Literary Magazine.

ON SUDDEN DEATH.

I WAS lately in a company where the conversation turned upon the most eligible mode of *dying*. Various were the sentiments expressed upon this interesting subject. A lingering and natural death was generally preferred, because such a one afforded opportunity of penitence and reformation, and of arranging all our private affairs. A violent death, if foreseen, possessed, indeed, most of these advantages, but then such a death is likely to be regarded with extreme reluctance; whereas it is the quality of disease to slacken the hold which the appetites and passions have of life, and to disrobe the terrestrial scene of most of its ordinary attractions.

This conclusion was not without objections, but these objections were overruled by superior arguments, and the debate appeared to end, for once, in unanimity. At length an old gentleman, who had hitherto been silent, was asked to give his opinion. He modestly observed, that the conclusion generally acquiesced in implied a life not conformable to reason or religion. As life was at best precarious, it was the duty of

every one, in relation to his own safety hereafter, the benefit of his survivors, and the honour of his name, to be always prepared to die. We ought so to live, that our sudden death can produce no mischief to ourselves or our survivors, but that which is inseparable from death in any form..... These conditions being granted, he begged leave to relate the death of Leonard Euler, one of the best and wisest men which the present age has produced, and one whom it was his most fervent wish to resemble both in life and death.

The company eagerly assenting to this proposal, he related it in these terms:

"Leonard Euler had retained all his facility of thought to the age of seventy-six, and, apparently, all his mental vigour: no decay seemed to threaten the sciences with the sudden loss of their greatest ornament. One day, after amusing himself with calculating, on a slate, the laws of the ascending motion of air-balloons, the recent discovery of which was then making a noise all over Europe, he dined with a friend and his family, talked of Herschell's planet, and of the calculations which determined its orbit. A little after, he called his grandchild to his knee, and fell a playing with him as he drank tea, when suddenly the cup, which he held in his hand, dropped from it, and he ceased to calculate and to breathe."

A——N.

For the Literary Magazine.

UNEQUAL MARRIAGES.

AN equality of fortune seems to be generally thought a good thing in human society. Those who object to it, really object to it as impracticable: not the *end* do they disapprove, but the *means* sometimes employed or proposed to effect this end; and they disapprove these means, because they merely contribute to exasperate those evils which they are designed to lessen or remove.

One of the means of keeping up and heightening inequality of fortune is the custom of marrying *wealth* to *wealth*. To make the object of our affection happy, by relieving his poverty, seems to be the most natural expression of love. A heart, imbued with that passion, must naturally wish the power of conferring obligation on its object. To raise from poverty to affluence, from labour to ease, from hardship and privation to enjoyment and honour, must unspeakably gratify a mind, which values another's good before its own. Such are the conclusions of one who should judge without experience.

Experience teaches a very different lesson. We find that the poverty of one party is the most insuperable obstacle to his pretensions. In the eyes of parents and guardians, marriage is a kind of bargain, in which each party is supposed to invest the other with all their property. Where the property is unequal, the bargain is, of course, unequal. The worth of the ward or child is the fortune she is to carry with her. If the suitor (or *suitress*) has less, he is rejected of course, just with the same feelings that men reject five dollars in silver, when offered in exchange for a bank note of ten.

Among the various expedients for producing an equality of conditions, I never, till lately, met with any thing like a law prohibiting the *rich* from marrying the *rich*. We have often seen it recommended, by speculative visionaries, to divide the property of deceased persons among all his children, or to give it to those among the children who need it or deserve it most. This rule of distribution has actually taken place among some nations. The Romans endeavoured to equalise property, by prohibiting any man from acquiring, either by purchase, gift, or inheritance, beyond a fixed quantity of land. We are

told that all these agrarian regulations were ineffectual among that people; but the Prussian Frederick seems to have succeeded in enforcing the same rule, within certain limitations. He raised the predial slaves, in some of his Silesian lordships, to the rank of freemen and proprietors, but he tied each one down to the property of one farm, of a fixed number of acres, and we are told that his regulations were observed.

It is somewhat remarkable, that though no system maker has adopted the rule restricting the rich from marrying the rich, that this rule should be actually in force in Spain. Baretti, a traveller in Spain, tells us, that the heir or heiress of a grandee cannot marry the heir or heiress of another grandee. If an heir fall in love with an heiress, he must forego his passion or his inheritance. He must resign his fortune to a younger brother, or a collateral relation.

Some such rule as this must, indeed, be expressly or tacitly adopted in every agrarian system. Frederick's peasants must have had their marriages restrained by some such conditions.

There are several particulars recorded of Spanish manners, which accord but little with the austerity and seclusion which it has been the custom of play-wrights and novel-wrights to ascribe to them. For example, we are told that if a girl give a ring, or any other token, to a man, as a pledge that she will marry him, the law, after some delay, will enforce the execution of the contract, whether the parents consent or not. From this rule the nobility only are exempted.

There is another circumstance, by which the crime of seduction is rendered nearly impossible to be committed in Spain, and, when committed, is divested of almost all its mischievous consequences. If a single woman happen to be pregnant, the man whom she affirms to be the father is compelled to be her husband.

It is well worthy the attention of some careful and impartial observer to trace the various effects of these institutions: but travellers, who will stay long enough in the country they visit, and will take suitable pains to ascertain the truth, are not to be met with.

O.

For the Literary Magazine.

CRITICAL REMARKS ON AUSTIN'S LETTERS FROM LONDON.

Letters from London, written in 1802 *and* 1803, *by William Austin.*

MR. AUSTIN is a politician. He is one of those who annex great importance to forms of government, and suppose most of the vices and virtues, evils and felicities of mankind to arise from their political condition. He is a friend to the democratic system, and thinks the American constitution not only best in itself, but to be best administered by those who hold the public offices, and bear legislative sway, at present.

The author's acknowledged purpose is to compare the state of England with that of the United States, in order to evince the superior happiness and dignity of his native country. What renders this work chiefly curious or original, is the representation of impressions such as manners and appearances in England would make upon a native of *New* England. The inferences drawn by the writer are frequently indeed peculiar to that part of the United States, and he would sometimes lead a foreigner into errors, by speaking of New England and its institutions, as if they were common to all parts of the union. It is well known, that in every thing which can distinguish one civilised community from another, there is a far wider difference between the east-

ern and the southern states of America, than can be found between America and England.

The great and fundamental error in this work will be thought by many to consist in the influence ascribed to government over the habits and manners of the people. What others would trace to the state of population and the arts, he is too apt to attribute to the prevalence of monarchy and aristocracy or democracy. He is tinctured with the principles of what has been sometimes called the new philosophy, and which represents the whole structure of society to depend entirely in the manner which design or accident has distributed political power. Almost ever page exhibits some example of this way of thinking.

The following is new to us:

"Most of those magnificent houses round London, which, proudly retiring from the city for the benefit of air and prospect, seem built as much with a view to external grandeur as to domestic convenience, are so completely guarded with high brick walls, that you might imagine the baron's wars had not yet terminated, for his house, in a double sense, is the owner's castle. Nor can you look into their gardens by reason of the fortifications; though you frequently see an elevated sign at the corner, requesting you to take notice that "*man traps*" are placed there.

"The houses in the city, even if they enjoy ten feet of rear ground, suffer the inconvenience of dark, confined air, by reason of high walls, the tops of which are usually cemented with broken glass bottles: I do not say to guard against their neighbours.

"The security of the house in which I reside is guarantied in the following manner. The door has a double lock, a chain, and two bolts, beside an alarum bell, which is carefully fixed to the pannel every night. A watchman, if he does his duty, passes by the door once in thirty minutes. Another watchman is stationed in the yard, and doomed to perpetual imprisonment with a chain round his neck."

The following reflections on the Jews are highly honourable to Mr. Austin's judgment and sagacity:

"I have bestowed not a little street reflection on this miserable race, and feel disposed to speak a word in their favour. If we contemplate their situation, even in England, where they are less persecuted than in any other country, except the United States, we shall find them indirectly driven to prey on the public, and compelled, by their disabilities, to a continual counteraction. Eligible to no office, incapable of holding land, or even of possessing a house, with the additional hardship of being despised, they are a sort of Indian Parias, and are absolutely proscribed from the social compact, and reduced to a state worse than that of simple nature, for, in opening their eyes to their condition, they find nothing on which to rest but the canopy of heaven. Now, I would appeal to Tully's Offices, or even to Dr. Johnson, if a man thus situated by *force*, *insidiously legalised under the sanction of law*, ought to be honest; and whether a man thus circumstanced, would not have a moral right to countervail, by every means in his power. Under such restrictions, can a Jew be expected to philanthropise, or, in the moment of benevolence, can his heart wander out of the precincts of his own nation, when early sentiments have necessarily been contaminated by all the arts of low commerce to which his nation is reduced? A benevolent Hebrew would be a monster. Hence, a Jew's passion cannot be reputation of any kind, but must concentre in money. Therefore, Shakespeare's *imaginary* Shylock is not exactly true to nature: a Jew, in such a case, would have accepted all the money he could have extorted, and have foregone his revenge. Yet this *imaginary* Shylock has prejudiced thousands of christians, who never saw a Jew, against the whole

tribe of Israel: while those very christains, who read the story of a certain duke, who demanded a large sum of money from a Jew, and extorted four of his teeth before he could extort the money, *are greatly surprised at the Jew's obstinacy.* In short, the Jews owe the christians nothing but hatred and revenge, whether they revert back to former times, or regard the present.

"The operation of those disabilities and restrictions, which the christian imposes on the Jew, is just what ought to be expected. Is a house on fire, he is happy to see it, the old nails afford a speculation. Crimes, for aught he cares, may multiply with impunity, he is the last to inform: who ever heard of a Jew informer? The more thieves, the more distress, the more boundless extravagance, the fairer the prospect; to him private vices are public benefits. Is the nation ruined, he has nothing to lament, having no tie, no *amor patriæ*, no attachment; but he is not quite ready to leave the country; a nation in ruins is a Jew fair.

"If the Jews were more disposed to agriculture, they might find, in the United States, a resting place, and, notwithstanding their religion, they might flourish as well there as at Jerusalem, or on the more favourite banks of the Jordan."

This work abounds with amusing and instructive passages. Some eminent persons are described with considerable eloquence. The great luminaries of the English bar, Erskine, Gibbs, and Garrow, are pourtrayed with much force.

The cast of politics with which this work is overspread, will recommend it to some, and depreciate its usefulness and merit to others; but all will probably be pleased, and that in no small degree, with the moral and descriptive portions of the work. Much information, in detail, must not be expected from it. It is a moral and political descant, in which characters, scenes, and incidents are introduced by way of illustration. These, though few, are entertaining and judicious. The following portrait of the quakers is entitled to no small praise:

"There is no class of people, in England, holden in less respect than the quakers; yet I have seen no sect, in this country, with whom I have been more pleased. With respect to the rest of the world, the quakers certainly are a hopeless and barren set of people. They hate equally kings and priests. Their consciences revolt at tythes in any shape, therefore the clergy hate them..... Their own meditations serve them instead of preaching, therefore the religious of most other denominations dislike them. Their temperance laughs at the physician, and their honesty starves the lawyer, while their prudence and foresight exalt them above the active, injurious hatred of the world, and elevate them above those who despise them.

"Their decency of carriage, their unassuming manners, their habitual economy, and general spirit of equity, have long, and will, perhaps, for ever, connect them together in a body, co-existent with their present maxims.

"There is one characteristic which distinguishes the quakers from all other sects: they discover nothing of the spirit of proselytism; their favourite sentiments partake nothing of enthusiasm; they hurl no damnation on the rest of the world; tolerant to every body, they consider all honest men their brethren. There is not a single trait in their character incentive to ill-will, nor a movement in their conduct which has ever courted persecution. Their humility has never resisted even oppression; in suffering patient, they are active only in support of their principles. Remote from all hypocrisy, they have never sought after temporal power, nor has their own system ever operated to the prejudice of others. Yet this sect has been persecuted, and its members been put to death!* the

* In New England.

blackest stigma on human nature with which the annals of politics or religion have been stained.

"Though they live under a monarchy, they have contrived, with the sacrifice of all temporal favours, to erect themselves into a government of their own, approaching as near to republic as is consistent with any sort of allegiance to the current government. This is a master-piece of policy which has gained them a firm standing in the midst of their enemies, and which ought to teach the rest of mankind that it is practicable for a virtuous, persevering few to counteract the many. The quakers have contrived to render themselves happy in the midst of misery, and free, in a great measure, in the midst of slavery.... Hence they have all that natural, unaffected dignity, and all that manly, cordial spirit of accommodation which man discovers to man before he becomes degenerate: and hence they regard mankind pretty much as that Cherokee did, who, being introduced at Paris, and shown every thing which was supposed capable of delighting or surprising him, was asked, after his eyes had swallowed the objects of a whole week's exhibition, "What astonished him most?" answered, "The difference between man and man:" and then being questioned "With what he was most delighted?" answered, "He was most delighted to see a passenger help a heavy burden upon the back of another."

"Although the quakers approach nearer to the religion of nature, notwithstanding their correspondence with the world, than any systematic sect which has ever appeared, they still hold to the great principles of the christian religion, though, in point of *orthodoxy*, they can hardly be termed christians. Most others, whether eastern sages or western saints, have retired from the world in the degree they have approached brama or Jesus, while the quakers, contented with this world until they can find a better, have found the secret of living in the midst of society, and of mingling as much of this world as is consistent with heaven, and as much of heaven as is consistent with making the most of this world.

"I have been led to these observations from a petty circumstance which occurred yesterday. I found, on my table, the following printed notice: "Some of the people, called quakers, intend to hold a meeting this evening, at their place of worship, in Martin's court, St. Martin's Lane, to which the neighbours are invited." In expectation of something extraordinary, I attended.... At the door I was received by one of the friends, who introduced me to a seat among the elders. The house was soon filled, and a profound silence reigned for a few minutes, when one of the brethren rose, and began to speak, but he had not spoken a minute, when an elder said, "We would take it kind of thee, friend, to sit down." The speaker looked up to see whence the disapprobation proceeded, then nodding, in acquiescence, sat down. Presently, a fine looking, elderly lady, of matronly appearance, dressed in the most elegant simplicity, rose, and, after a warm and impressive prayer, delivered, extempore, an animated and edifying discourse, with a flow of elocution, and grace of manner, which, had she been forty years younger, might have inflamed those passions she sought to allay.

"There is one defect in the polity of the quakers, which will for ever subject them to the tyranny of the times....they love peace so well they will not even fight for their liberty. This known principle divests them of all political consequence, when those great political movements are agitated, which sometimes involve the deepest consequences to society: otherwise, the quakers would gradually effect a revolution throughout the world."

For the Literary Magazine.

GREAT BRITAIN (IRELAND INCLUDED), AUSTRIA, FRANCE, PRUSSIA, AND SPAIN (BEFORE THE FRENCH REVOLUTION), STATISTICALLY COMPARED.

	G. Brit. and Ireland.	Austrian Dominions.	France.	Prussia.	Spain.
Extent in English square miles	150,000	240,000	200,000	75,000	200,000
Population	15,000,000	20,000,000	25,000,000	6,000,000	12,500,000
Number of persons to a square mile	100	83 1/3	125	80	62 1/4
Extent in English acres	96,000,000	143,600,000	128,000,000	48,000,000	128,000,000
Number of acres to each person	6	7	5	8	10 1/4
Revenues in dollars	120,000,000	44,000,000	90,000,000	19,000,000	64,000,000
Amount of public debt	1,800,000,000	180,000,000	1,125,000,000		220,000,000
Land troops in peace	45,000	360,000	225,000	225,000	100,000
Land troops in war	150,000	450,000	500,000	350,000	250,000
Seamen in peace	18,000		25,000		40,000
Seamen in war	110,000		125,000		100,000
Cultivated acres	70,000,000	75,000,000	75,000,000	25,000,000	50,000,000
Taxes paid by each person	8	2.40	3.60	3 16	5
Population of capital	900,000	250,000	750,000	80,000	150,000

These five are the great kingdoms in the west of Europe. Two of them, Austria and Prussia, are inland nations, having no navy, and little shipping. The remaining three, Great Britain, France, and Spain, are naval and maritime nations, to whom many millions of men, and immense territories, in Asia and America, are or have been subject. France, though a maritime nation, and a naval power, next to England, and far above Spain, is without any foreign possessions..... Great Britain possesses, in Asia, territories equal to 300,000 square miles, with 40,000,000 of subjects. In North America, about 300,000 square miles of territory, and 300,000 subjects. Spain possesses, in Asia, about 75,000 square miles of territory, and 30,000 subjects. In North and South America, about 7,500,000 square miles of territory, and 7,500,000 subjects. Hence it appears that the Spanish empire is far beyond the territorial extent of the Russian, whose immensity has been so often vaunted. The population, European and American, of the first, being compared with the population, European and Asiatic, of the second, is at least equal, while, in all natural advantages, the American provinces of Spain are infinitely superior to the Siberian provinces of Russia.

The whole extent of the British empire, in both hemispheres, including its nominal allies, but real tributaries, in Hindoostan, is upwards of 1,080,000 square miles, and its subjects above 55,000,000, eminent in wealth, arts, and commerce. The habitable part of the Russian empire does not exceed 1,000,000 square miles. No mean portion of its inhabitants are savages, and only nominally subjects; but the whole population is less than *half* of that of the British empire.

The whole extent of the above four kingdoms in Europe is, in square miles	865,000
Extent of their empire beyond sea exceeds	8,455,000
Which, together, is equal to	9,320,000

The population, European, of the four kingdoms is	78,500,000
That of the foreign possessions of two of them is upwards of	48,000,000
Which together make	126,500,000

For the Literary Magazine.

RICHARD THE THIRD AND PERKIN WARBECK.

THE folly and the fallacy of fame is an old theme of observation; but there are few instances of its absurdity and injustice more memorable than in relation to the character of Richard the third. Happening to be unfortunate in battle, and a rival king and family stepping into his place, his character has been maligned and mangled without mercy. One historian after another has repeated the tale of his murders, perjuries, and usurpations; and what the grave historian relates to a few, the poet has rendered familiar to all mankind.

If the opinions of mankind were really of any importance to those who died a century or two ago, poor Richard would have a heavy charge to bring against Shakespeare, whose play is one of the most enormous libels that ever was uttered against a human being: enormous not only as to the degree of guilt ascribed to the object of it, but as to the lasting and extensive nature of the infamy it heaps upon the object. Shakespeare's popularity has made the ambition of Richard and the revenge of Shylock equally proverbial, though both are equally calumnious, and equally without foundation in history or probability: Shylock, indeed, is an imaginary character, but in Shylock the Jewish *nation* is traduced.

Horace Walpole was the first in England who suggested doubts as to the truth of the vulgar representations, in history and poetry, of Richard's character and person. Mr. Laing, a very eminent writer, has, at a later period, pursued the vindication of Richard much further, and has displayed great sagacity and learning, in proving that the title of Richard was really well-founded; that it was preferable to that of the sons of his brother Edward, because their mother bore them at a time when Edward was lawfully married to another; that the personal singularities of Richard are, if not wholly untrue, yet greatly exaggerated; that the cruelties ascribed to him in early youth were never committed; and that, in particular, it was not Richard but his successor, Henry the seventh, who was the murderer of the duke of York, in the person of Perkin Warbeck. Mr. Laing thinks that one or both the princes, whom Richard is commonly supposed to have murdered in the tower, were in reality alive at his death, and that the youngest re-appeared long after, in the person of Warbeck. This conclusion is supported by facts and arguments, which, if they do not make it certain, give it at least far more probability than the opposite conclusion can lay claim to.

I am somewhat surprized that the curious in these matters have wholly overlooked a publication which appeared at Paris, about 1738, written by Claude Du Bois, a jesuit, librarian to the count of Lauenstein. His book is voluminous; and the title may be translated, Historical Collections from the Lauenstein Library. Among various extracts and dissertations, purely local, in this work, is one which attempts to throw some light upon the dark points of English history respecting Richard and Warbeck.

The *compte* of Lauenstein, the author tells us, is in the province of Cambrai; a princely domain, which has been in possession of the same family since the days of Louis Hutin. In the archives of this family, which he represents as remarkably

copious and entire, from a period anterior to the crusades, he found a series of papers, connected with the history of Edward the fourth and Richard the third. Lauenstein, it seems, was a populous and wealthy district, where arts and trade had immemorially flourished. At the accession of Edward, Charles XVII was count or lord of Lauenstein; he was famous for his attention to the manufactures of the lordship, one branch of which he entirely engrossed into his own hands, and transacted business at foreign marts, like the Medicean princes, by means of factors or agents. He drove a great trade at London, where he maintained a commercial agent, whose command of ready money made him extremely useful to the English princes, and gave him no small influence at the English court. At the accession of Richard, this agent was named Mark Prague, a man of learning and ability, and who was a careful and intelligent observer of all public transactions. Mark Prague maintained a frequent correspondence with his principal, and detailed all political transactions in his dispatches, with great minuteness. From this correspondence Du Bois forms the narrative he has given to the world in this collection.

According to this narrative, it appears that Mark Prague had advanced, at particular times, various sums of money to the duke of Gloucester. In consequence of this service, and of his personal merit, he had greatly advanced in the favour and confidence of the duke, and had become, in some respects, his confidential counsellor. This situation made him acquainted with the character and genuine motives of Richard, whom he represents as influenced by a firm persuasion of the illegitimacy of his nephews and nieces, and of his own legal right to the crown. After a detail of transactions leading to his elevation, to which the Lauenstein factor contributed in no small degree, both by money and counsel, and in which the leading personages of the English court perform very different parts, and appear in very different lights from those assigned to them in the commonly received histories; he proceeds to explain the motives of the king in keeping the princes in a rigorous captivity, till the eve of the arrival of the earl of Richmond. When that event took place, it was concerted between the king and Prague, that the captive princes should be delivered to the latter, and transported by him to the Low Countries, where they were to remain, under the special guardianship of the count of Lauenstein. This removal was effected with the utmost secrecy, and the princes were safely lodged in the castle of Lauenstein, by the time that Henry VII was fully seated on the throne.

In this castle they were reared and educated with the utmost care. They were taught to consider Richard as their benefactor, not their enemy; first, in sparing their lives, and next, in placing them out of the reach of his jealous and sanguinary successor, from whose temper and views they had much more to dread than they ever had from Richard.

Edward, the eldest of these princes, was of a meek, pliant, devout temper, who willingly resigned all those hopes, with which the numerous partizans and great popularity of his house might have inspired him, not only through a conscientious belief of his defective right, but from an aversion to the crimes and perils of royalty. He readily consented to conceal his birth, and a marriage with the heiress of Lauenstein gave him in due time the sovereignty of that county.

The younger brother, Richard, was of a different disposition. He was restless, enterprising, and ambitious. He did not so easily acquiesce in his exclusion from dignities, to which popular opinion, with whatever reason, gave him a plausible and practicable claim. He rejected

the sober and prudent counsels of his brother, and, after he had risen to manhood, he left Lauenstein in pursuit of fortune, and went to his aunt, the duchess of Burgundy. The rest of his history is pretty well known, and his miserable fate tended only to confirm the unambitious principles of his brother, who attained a great age in the quiet and prosperous administration of his little principality. We are told that he was present, in disguise, at the coronation of Elizabeth, when he was near ninety years of age.

Edward was desirous of consigning all the particulars of his early history to oblivion. This end he effected imperfectly. Instead of destroying, he only deposited the letters and archives connected with his history in a tower or closet, little frequented, and usually appropriated to antiquated and useless records. Here they were found, nearly defaced by time and neglect, in the eighteenth century, by the Lauenstein librarian, whose curiosity left no nook unvisited and unexplored. As this was now a point of mere curiosity, he easily obtained the consent of the ruling count, the lineal descendant of Edward, to publish them.

The truth or falsehood of this tale has no connexion with the interests or concerns of the present age, but the imagination easily identifies our own existence with that of men who flourished a thousand years ago. Hence it is that enlightened men have spent laborious years in clearing up the incidents of a remote age; in discussing the existence and settling the merits of Arthur and Charlemagne. There are many ingenious persons in the world, though perhaps there are few of them in America, who think it a matter of great importance to ascertain the true character of Richard the third and of Perkin Warbeck. To such I may venture to recommend Du Bois' book, as well worthy their attention.

CURIOSO.

For the Literary Magazine.

MEMOIRS OF GARWIN THE BILOQUIST.

Continued from vol. II, page 252.

THE books which composed this little library were chiefly the voyages and travels of the missionaries of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Added to these were some works upon political economy and legislation. Those writers who have amused themselves with reducing their ideas to practice, and drawing imaginary pictures of nations or republics, whose manners or government came up to their standard of excellence, were, all of whom I had ever heard, and some I had never heard of before, to be found in this collection. A translation of Aristotle's republic, the political romances of sir Thomas Moore, Harrington, and Hume, appeared to have been much read, and Ludlow had not been sparing of his marginal comments. In these writers he appeared to find nothing but error and absurdity; and his notes were introduced for no other end than to point out groundless principles and false conclusions..... The style of these remarks was already familiar to me. I saw nothing new in them, or different from the strain of those speculations with which Ludlow was accustomed to indulge himself in conversation with me.

After having turned over the leaves of the printed volumes, I at length lighted on a small book of maps, from which, of course, I could reasonably expect no information, on that point about which I was most curious. It was an atlas, in which the maps had been drawn by the pen. None of them contained any thing remarkable, so far as I, who was indeed a smatterer in geography, was able to perceive, till I came to the end, when I noticed a map, whose prototype I was wholly unacquainted with. It was drawn

on a pretty large scale, representing two islands, which bore some faint resemblance, in their relative proportions, at least, to Great Britain and Ireland. In shape they were widely different, but as to size there was no scale by which to measure them. From the great number of subdivisions, and from signs, which apparently represented towns and cities, I was allowed to infer, that the country was at least as extensive as the British isles. This map was apparently unfinished, for it had no names inscribed upon it.

I have just said, my geographical knowledge was imperfect. Though I had not enough to draw the outlines of any country by memory, I had still sufficient to recognize what I had before seen, and to discover that none of the larger islands in our globe resembled the one before me. Having such and so strong motives to curiosity, you may easily imagine my sensations on surveying this map. Suspecting, as I did, that many of Ludlow's intimations alluded to a country well known to him, though unknown to others, I was, of course, inclined to suppose that this country was now before me.

In search of some clue to this mystery, I carefully inspected the other maps in this collection. In a map of the eastern hemisphere I soon observed the outlines of islands, which, though on a scale greatly diminished, were plainly similar to that of the land above described.

It is well known that the people of Europe are strangers to very nearly one half of the surface of the globe*. From the south pole up to the equator, it is only the small space occupied by southern Africa and by South America with which we are acquainted. There is a vast extent, sufficient to receive a continent as large as North America, which our ignorance has filled only with water. In Ludlow's maps nothing was still to be seen, in these regions, but water, except in that spot where the transverse parallels of the southern tropic and the 150th degree east longitude intersect each other. On this spot were Ludlow's islands placed, though without any name or inscription whatever.

I needed not to be told that this spot had never been explored by any European voyager, who had published his adventures. What authority had Ludlow for fixing a habitable land in this spot? and why did he give us nothing but the courses of shores and rivers, and the scite of towns and villages, without a name?

As soon as Ludlow had set out upon his proposed journey of a fortnight, I unlocked his closet, and continued rummaging among these books and maps till night. By that time I had turned over every book and almost every leaf in this small collection, and did not open the closet again till near the end of that period. Meanwhile I had many reflections upon this remarkable circumstance. Could Ludlow have intended that I should see this atlas? It was the only book that could be styled a manuscript on these shelves, and it was placed beneath several others, in a situation far from being obvious and forward to the eye or the hand. Was it an oversight in him to leave it in my way, or could he have intended to lead my curiosity and knowledge a little farther onward by this accidental disclosure? In either case how was I to regulate my future deportment toward him? Was I to speak and act as if this atlas had escaped my attention or not? I had already, after my first examination of it, placed the volume exactly where I found it. On every supposition I thought this was the safest way, and unlocked the closet a second time, to see that all was precisely in the original order.... How was I dismayed and confounded on inspecting the shelves to per-

* The reader must be reminded that the incidents of this narrative are supposed to have taken place before the voyages of Bougainville and Cook. —EDITOR.

ceive that the atlas was gone. This was a theft, which, from the closet being under lock and key, and the key always in my own pocket, and which, from the very nature of the thing stolen, could not be imputed to any of the domestics. After a few moments a suspicion occurred, which was soon changed into certainty by applying to the housekeeper, who told me that Ludlow had returned, apparently in much haste, the evening of the day on which he had set out upon his journey, and just after I had left the house, that he had gone into the room where this closet of books was, and, after a few minutes' stay, came out again and went away. She told me also, that he had made general enquiries after me, to which she had answered, that she had not seen me during the day, and supposed that I had spent the whole of it abroad. From this account it was plain, that Ludlow had returned for no other purpose but to remove this book out of my reach. But if he had a double key to this door, what should hinder his having access, by the same means, to every other locked up place in the house?

This suggestion made me start with terror. Of so obvious a means for possessing a knowledge of every thing under his roof, I had never been till this moment aware. Such is the infatuation which lays our most secret thoughts open to the world's scrutiny. We are frequently in most danger when we deem ourselves most safe, and our fortress is taken sometimes through a point, whose weakness nothing, it should seem, but the blindest stupidity could overlook.

My terrors, indeed, quickly subsided when I came to recollect that there was nothing in any closet or cabinet of mine which could possibly throw light upon subjects which I desired to keep in the dark. The more carefully I inspected my own drawers, and the more I reflected on the character of Ludlow, as I had known it, the less reason did there appear in my suspicions; but I drew a lesson of caution from this circumstance, which contributed to my future safety.

From this incident I could not but infer Ludlow's unwillingness to let me so far into his geographical secret, as well as the certainty of that suspicion, which had very early been suggested to my thoughts, that Ludlow's plans of civilization had been carried into practice in some unvisited corner of the world. It was strange, however, that he should betray himself by such an inadvertency. One who talked so confidently of his own powers, to unveil any secret of mine, and, at the same time, to conceal his own transactions, had surely committed an unpardonable error in leaving this important document in my way. My reverence, indeed, for Ludlow was such, that I sometimes entertained the notion that this seeming oversight was, in truth, a regular contrivance to supply me with a knowledge, of which, when I came maturely to reflect, it was impossible for me to make any ill use. There is no use in relating what would not be believed; and should I publish to the world the existence of islands in the space allotted by Ludlow's maps to these *incognitæ*, what would the world answer? That whether the space described was sea or land was of no importance. That the moral and political condition of its inhabitants was the only topic worthy of rational curiosity. Since I had gained no information upon this point; since I had nothing to disclose but vain and fantastic surmises; I might as well be ignorant of every thing. Thus, from secretly condemning Ludlow's imprudence, I gradually passed to admiration of his policy. This discovery had no other effect than to stimulate my curiosity; to keep up my zeal to prosecute the journey I had commenced under his auspices.

I had hitherto formed a resolution to stop where I was in Ludlow's confidence: to wait till the success should be ascertained of my projects with respect to Mrs. Benington, before I made any new advance in the

perilous and mysterious road into which he had led my steps. But, before this tedious fortnight had elapsed, I was grown extremely impatient for an interview, and had nearly resolved to undertake whatever obligation he should lay upon me.

This obligation was indeed a heavy one, since it included the confession of my vocal powers. In itself the confession was little. To possess this faculty was neither laudable nor culpable, nor had it been exercised in a way which I should be very much ashamed to acknowledge. It had led me into many insincerities and artifices, which, though not justifiable by any creed, was entitled to some excuse, on the score of youthful ardour and temerity. The true difficulty in the way of these confessions was the not having made them already. Ludlow had long been entitled to this confidence, and, though the existence of this power was venial or wholly innocent, the obstinate concealment of it was a different matter, and would certainly expose me to suspicion and rebuke. But what was the alternative? To conceal it. To incur those dreadful punishments awarded against treason in this particular. Ludlow's menaces still rung in my ears, and appalled my heart. How should I be able to shun them? By concealing from every one what I concealed from him? How was my concealment of such a faculty to be suspected or proved? Unless I betrayed myself, who could betray me?

In this state of mind, I resolved to confess myself to Ludlow in the way that he required, reserving only the secret of this faculty. Awful, indeed, said I, is the crisis of my fate. If Ludlow's declarations are true, a horrid catastrophe awaits me: but as fast as my resolutions were shaken, they were confirmed anew by the recollection—Who can betray me but myself? If I deny, who is there can prove? Suspicion can never light upon the truth. If it does, it can never be converted into certainty. Even my own lips cannot confirm it, since who will believe my testimony?

By such illusions was I fortified in my desperate resolution. Ludlow returned at the time appointed. He informed me that Mrs. Benington expected me next morning. She was ready to depart for her country residence, where she proposed to spend the ensuing summer, and would carry me along with her. In consequence of this arrangement, he said, many months would elapse before he should see me again. You will indeed, continued he, be pretty much shut up from all society. Your books and your new friend will be your chief, if not only companions. Her life is not a social one, because she has formed extravagant notions of the importance of lonely worship and devout solitude. Much of her time will be spent in meditation upon pious books in her closet. Some of it in long solitary rides in her coach, for the sake of exercise. Little will remain for eating and sleeping, so that unless you can prevail upon her to violate her ordinary rules for your sake, you will be left pretty much to yourself. You will have the more time to reflect upon what has hitherto been the theme of our conversations. You can come to town when you want to see me. I shall generally be found in these apartments.

In the present state of my mind, though impatient to see Mrs. Benington, I was still more impatient to remove the veil between Ludlow and myself. After some pause, I ventured to enquire if there was any impediment to my advancement in the road he had already pointed out to my curiosity and ambition.

He replied, with great solemnity, that I was already acquainted with the next step to be taken in this road. If I was prepared to make him my confessor, as to the past, the present, and the future, *without exception or condition*, but what arose from defect of memory, he was willing to receive my confession.

I declared myself ready to do so.

I need not, he returned, remind you of the consequences of concealment or deceit. I have already dwelt upon these consequences. As to the past, you have already told me, perhaps, all that is of any moment to know. It is in relation to the future that caution will be chiefly necessary. Hitherto your actions have been nearly indifferent to the ends of your future existence. Confessions of the past are required, because they are an earnest of the future character and conduct. Have you then—but this is too abrupt. Take an hour to reflect and deliberate. Go by yourself; take yourself to severe task, and make up your mind with a full, entire, and unfailing resolution; for the moment in which you assume this new obligation will make you a new being. Perdition or felicity will hang upon that moment.

This conversation was late in the evening. After I had consented to postpone this subject, we parted, he telling me that he would leave his chamber door open, and as soon as my mind was made up I might come to him.

To be continued.

For the Literary Magazine.

ADVERSARIA.

NO. V.

STERNE.

TRISTRAM SHANDY has, with some pleasantry, compared the body and the soul to a coat and its lining; if you rumple the one, you rumple the other.

—

READING.

He that never reads sees in the world only himself. As he has no idea of what has been thought by others, he considers all his own reflections as of the greatest importance. It is therefore by erudition alone that such a one can enlarge the narrow circle in which his genius is confined.

—

EPIGRAM ON THE SCOTS.

Dr. Johnson's prejudices against the Scots were strong, but his sarcasms were always witty. From a couplet in Dr. Donne's works it should seem that Johnson was not singular in his antipathy.

Had Cain been Scot, God would have chang'd his doom,
Nor forc'd him wander, but confin'd him home.

—

DIDEROT.

Diderot thinks it ridiculous to say "the more heads the better counsel," because nothing is more common than heads, and nothing more rare than good advice. Was Adrian to be blamed for causing to be inscribed on his tomb-stone, "It was the great number of physicians that killed the emperor"?

—

TEA.

Teach me, ye nine, to sing of tea,
Of grateful green, of *black bohea:*
Hark the water softly singing,
How again it bubbles o'er;
Quickly, John, the kettle bring in,
Water in the tea-pot pour.

The bread and butter thinly slice,
Oh spread it delicately nice;
Let the toast be crisp and crumpling,
The rolls as doughy as a dumpling.

Then eating, sipping, snuffing up the stream,
We chat, and 'midst a motley chaos seem,
Of cups and saucers, butter, bread, and cream.

VERSATILITY OF THE MOB.

Many writers have painted the weakness and fickleness of a mob in vivid colours, but few have done it with more energy and fidelity than the Roman satirist. No sooner was Sejanus thrown from the elevation in which they viewed him with awe and admiration, than their love was turned into hatred, their praises into curses.

——————— Sed quid
Turba remi? sequitur fortunam, ut semper, et odit
Damnatos: idem populus, si et urci tusco
Flavisset, si oppressa foret secura senectus
Principis, hac ipsa Sejanum diceret horâ
Augustum.

JUV. SAT. X. V. 72.

The version of Mr. Gifford does not disgrace the original.

But——
What think the people of their favourite's fate?
They follow fortune as of old, and hate
With their whole souls, the victim of the state, &c.

—

TIBERIUS.

Velleius Paterculus, who, in a fulsome strain of panegyric, draws a most honourable character to Tiberius, one of the most cruel tyrants which ever disgraced the Roman government, mentions, as worthy of particular remark, the modesty with which he attended trials, not as a judge, or a prince, but as a private person. The fact is, that he always said, before judgment was pronounced, "If I were to decide, it should be so."

—

GOLDEN AGES.

I implicitly believe the position, that man is born to do evil, as the sparks fly upwards. So cynical am I, that I place not the slightest reliance on the many fascinations which the ancient poets described in the golden age, and our more modern ones of Arcadian countries. We have no sort of proof that such an age ever existed. If these were men without vice, these were men without knowledge, since they have been able to transmit to us no records of their felicity. A writer, of whom I regret I recollect so little, acutely asks, who were those men that lived in such innocence? The first man who was born killed the second. When did the times of simplicity begin?

Those who wish to riot in all the luxuriance of description may indulge their taste in Seneca, Ep. xc, or in almost any of the tribe of modern pastoral writers.

—

FEMALE DRESS.

The ladies of the present day are very ambitious to exhibit the Grecian head-dress. But perhaps they are ignorant that other parts of their dress are no less ancient. Horace says of a belle of the isle of Coos, that she was clothed so thinly, that her dress was almost transparent.

——Cois tibi pæne videre est,
Ut nudam.

—

AUTHORS.

A precept of Scaurus might be attended to with great advantage by many orators of the present day. *Non minus magnam virtutem esse scire desinere, quam scire dicere.* It is as essential a virtue in oratory to know when to stop, as to chuse a brilliant expression.

Nor is it less necessary to the author to know where to leave off writing. Fond of his employment, and too confident of his own powers, he makes no allowance for the strength of genius, or the imbecility of age. This remark is fortified by the opinion of Quintilian. He ad-

vises them not to wait for the decays of life, but to retreat in time, and anchor safely in port before the vessel be disabled. The consequence, he continues, will be, that the man of talents will enjoy a state of complacency, unruffled by mixing in scenes of contention, beyond the voice of detraction, and will be able, while alive, to form an opinion, and even enjoy a posthumous fame..... Lib. 12, ch. 11.

—

LIFE OF THE STUDENT.

In an essay, by Dr. Hawkesworth, in which he has happily imitated the style of his illustrious associate, he has no less successfully exposed the vulgar error, that the life of a student is a life of ease and indolence. There are few opinions more specious to the careless observer, and yet there is none more lamentably false. They who listen with rapture, in the short intervals of leisure which they enjoy from a laborious business, to the soft harmony of Pope, or the majestic period of Johnson, imagine it the inspiration of a willing muse. But that the fact is not so, the furrowed brow and the enfeebled frame of the student daily evince. Those happy expressions which sparkle as the effusions of the moment, are really produced by the most elaborate thought, and are not presented to the reader until they have undergone an anxious and painful revision.

The multitudes that support life by corporal labour, and eat their bread in the sweat of their brow, commonly regard inactivity as idleness; and have no conception that weariness may be contracted in an elbow chair, by now and then peeping into a book, and musing the rest of the day: the sedentary and studious, therefore, raise their envy or contempt, as they appear either to possess the conveniences of life by the mere bounty of fortune, or to suffer the want of them by refusing to work. It is, however, certain, that to think is to labour; and that as the body is affected by the exercise of the mind, the fatigue of the study is not less than that of the field or the manufactory. But the labour of the mind, though it be equally wearisome with that of the body, is not attended with the same advantages. Exercise gives health, vigour, and cheerfulness, sound sleep, and a keen appetite: the effects of sedentary thoughtfulness are diseases that shorten and embitter life; interrupted rest, tasteless meals, perpetual langour, and careless anxiety.

There is scarcely any character so much the object of envy as that of a successful writer. But those who only see him in company, or hear encomiums on his merit, form a very erroneous opinion of his happiness. They conceive him as perpetually enjoying the triumphs of intellectual superiority; as displaying the luxuriancy of his fancy, and the variety of his knowledge to silent admiration; or listening in voluptuous indolence to the music of praise. But they know not that these lucid intervals are short and few, that much the greater part of his life is passed in solitude and anxiety; that his hours glide away unnoticed, and the day, like the night, is contracted to a moment by the intense application of the mind to its object; locked up from every eye, and lost even to himself, he is reminded that he lives, only by the necessities of life; he then starts up as from a dream, and regrets that the day has passed unenjoyed, without affording means of happiness to the morrow.

So far the essayist; and however melancholy a picture he may have drawn, it is yet a faithful representation of what every student has undergone in his toilsome but delightful journey to the *Temple of Fame*.

The recluse, who does not easily assimilate with the herd of mankind, and whose manners with difficulty bend to the peculiarities of others, is not likely to have many real friends. His enjoyments, therefore,

must oe solitary, lone, and melancholy. *His only friend is himself.* As he sits immersed in reverie by his midnight fire, and hears the wild gusts of rain fitfully careering over the plain, he listens sadly attentive; and as the intonations of the howling blast articulate to his enthusiastic ear, he converses with the spirits of the departed, while, between each dreary pause of the storm, he holds solitary communion with himself. Such is the social intercourse of the recluse.

Few students, as "they trim the midnight lamp," will read the following lines without some idea of the gloomy feelings of the author:

Nor undelightful is the solemn noon of night———
———— Lo, all is motionless around!
Roars not the rushing wind; the sons of men,
And every beast, in mute oblivion lie;
All Nature's hush'd in silence and in sleep.
Oh, then how fearful is it to reflect
No being wakes but me!———

Wharton's Pleasures of Melancholy, from which this extract is made, was first printed in 1745..... Although it abounds with nervous passages, and every where indicates the pen of a poet, it is unaccountably neglected.

—

PLAGIARISM.

Our most eminent poets have very freely indulged themselves in the practice of plagiarism, Pope especially; but, as he resorted to the ancients, and works not commonly known, it has not been generally noticed; by most who have observed it, it is esteemed a beauty; as we may find in the sixty-third number of the Adventurer. Besides his professed imitations of Horace, that admired critic, as well as poet, he is evidently indebted to him for many things in his essay, but more considerably to M. H. Vida, a native of Cromona, and bishop of Alba, an elegant Latin writer of the fifteenth century, who has left an Art of Poetry, in three books, of which Pope's Art of Criticism, it may be almost affirmed, is but an ingenious abridgment. To produce the parallel passages would require more room than could conveniently be spared, not much less than to transcribe the whole essay. Addison, though with circumspection and reserve, has trodden the same track, and sometimes plumes himself in borrowed feathers.

—

A REMARKABLE SPEECH OF MR. CUFFE,

Secretary to the earl of Essex, who was executed in the reign of queen Elizabeth, for the same offence which brought his master to the block.

I am here adjudged to die for acting an act never plotted, for plotting a plot never acted. Justice will have her course; accusers must be heard; greatness will have the victory; scholars and martialists (though learning and valour should have the pre-eminence) in England must die like dogs, and be hanged. To mislike this were but folly; to dispute it but time lost; to alter it impossible; but to endure it is manly; and to scorn it magnanimity. The queen is displeased, the lawyers injurious, and death terrible; but I crave pardon of the queen; forgive the lawyers, and the world; desire to be forgiven; and welcome death.

—

ODD ADVERTISEMENT.

The following lines, in four different languages, were scratched on the window of an inn:

In questa casa trover te,
Tout ce qu'on peut souhaiter,
Vinum, panem, pisces, carnes,
Coaches, chaises, horses, harness.

For the Literary Magazine.

FORCE OF EXAMPLE.

Concluded.

SINCE example is so powerful an engine in the hands of the influential, how important a duty have they to fulfil, and how much vigilance and attention does not the exercise of it require! On them depends, in some measure, the formation of the manners, and even the virtues and vices of mankind: mankind are placed in their hands, like clay in the hands of a potter, who moulds it into whatever form he pleases. We see how readily men obey the influence of example in the most trivial things, such as the form of their garments, the furniture of their houses, their conversation, and their pursuits, and, since the truth must be told, their follies and their crimes. Many vices, detestable and disgraceful in their nature, and terrible in their consequences, have become fashionable from this cause alone. Fashion, considered in the common method of defining it, is but a folly, but its consequences are deeply to be regretted. To how many hardships does she not expose her votaries! to what privations are not the poor and middling classes exposed, by imitating the follies of their betters in fortune! how many wants are created by this agent, wants which but for this would have been for ever unfelt or unregarded. The humble artist must labour hard to satisfy them. Were he left to the free and unbiassed exercise of his understanding, he might enjoy many comforts, many pleasures, for which he is doomed to sigh, and sigh in vain: but it is needless to dwell any longer on these follies or their effects.

Yet I will call the reader's attention to one of the vices fashion has introduced—gambling. Virtue, integrity, honour, justice, every thing that adds lustre to the character of man, sink before it, like the withered leaves of autumn before the devouring flames.

Parents and instructors of youth are still more strongly bound to exhibit good examples to the view of the rising generation; they are more immediately concerned in their welfare. The inefficacy of precept is so well known, that it is a source of astonishment why recourse is not had at all times to example. Youth is like the young and flexile shoots of a delicate plant, which follow that direction which the care of the gardener gives them; they imitate their tutors and parents, without knowing why; they do not (nor are they able to) reason on the propriety or impropriety of any thing they may intend to perform; their minds are not sufficiently powerful to place it in various points of view, and in relation to its probable consequences; nor are they able to comprehend those precepts which have been written by moralists, and sanctioned by the united voice of mankind, and by long experience. These are only understood by those whose dispositions are formed, whose minds are adorned or depraved, whose virtues or vices have been fixed by example and confirmed by habit.

Nor is example less useful to legislators and statesmen, and though it but seldom is, yet it might often be successfully employed. The respect which the virtues of a man holding the most important stations his country can bestow, naturally inspire, would make virtue fashionable. If they would encourage patriotism in others, let them be patriotic themselves; if they would encourage disinterestedness, let them be disinterested; if they would inspire courage, let them show a noble contempt of danger. He that would make soldiers of a people, must not expect to effect his purpose by exhortation alone; but let him exhort them sword in hand; let him lead them to the foe, rush into the thickest of the battle, and expose himself to its dangers. Then will the people follow with enthu-

thiasm; the courage that glows in his bosom will be transfused into theirs; his ardour will animate them, and stimulate them to the noblest exertions.

Men are like those vines which wind around the monarchs of the forest, and thereby acquire a support, without which they would perish at their feet; their virtues would lie dormant in their bosoms, or, unsupported, languish in obscurity. But when the example of the great calls forth these hidden qualities, men are stimulated to the performance of great and noble actions; then does merit step forth from its humble retreats; virtue, no longer unfashionable, acts with vigour, produces effects the most happy, and pleasures the most exalted and most durable.

VALVERDI.

Feb. 7th, 1805.

For the Literary Magazine.

THE VISITOR.

NO. II.

"Weak and irresolute is man."
COWPER.

IN reviewing the history of the lives and actions of mankind, how few are to be found who can truly be called good! how few who can justly come under the description of virtuous and wise men, or genuine philanthropists! Extraordinary abilities do not tend to make any so; the irregularities, the vices, the peculiarities of men of genius are proverbial. So dark a shade is cast by them upon superior powers, as to destroy the good effects they were calculated and intended to produce, by destroying the confidence and esteem of the world for their possessor.

When I look around among my cotemporaries, I see one of abilities the greatest, of an excellent understanding and cultivated mind, but having passions equally great. I see him hurried away by their influence into dissipation and profligacy; I see his health destroyed, his constitution broken; the victim of disease, and almost on the verge of dissolution. How melancholy, how deplorable, how humiliating a condition! He now confesses his faults, he acknowledges his errors, and can only plead the impetuosity of his passions in excuse.

"For he was caught in Folly's snare,
And joined her giddy train;
But found her soon the nurse of care,
And punishment and pain."

After struggling with disease, he regains, in part, his former health, and resolves for the future to lead a regular and exemplary life; then

Some foe to his upright intent
Finds out his weaker part;
Virtue engages his assent,
But Pleasure wins his heart.
COWPER.

He again pursues the same course; the same consequences follow; until his constitution being broken, he falls the victim of unruly passions.

Such, which is the end of many, is often the fate of genius! Disease and death, caused by their own imprudence, make great inroads among men to whom nature has been most bounteous in the distribution of her intellectual gifts. Their friends who esteemed them, the world who admired them, have frequent cause to lament their destructive failings.

Many of this description, when viewed through the medium of their writings, appear the friends of virtue and religion. Such men are surely still entitled to the gratitude of the world. Their works, when of this kind, should atone for many errors. If their example whilst alive was injurious, their works, when they had ceased to exist, and their errors were forgotten (to use the emphatic words of Dr. Johnson), may be the cause of turning many to righteousness.

How strongly do such instances prove the instability of human nature, the imbecility of man, and the eternal conflict of good and evil passions in his breast! "The mind of man," says Mrs. Robinson, "is a mixture of incomprehensible propensities. Virtue is sometimes its natural inmate, but there is scarce an instance in which some bad passion does not sully its fair fame, and tarnish its most brilliant attributes." The minds of great men, particularly literary characters, seem actuated at different times by the most different and contradictory propensities. Most, it is true, have some one "ruling passion," and many discover it strong even in death; yet they have also others, though of minor influence, and of the most unlike nature, which at times sway them.

Zimmermann, whose elegant work*, which has conferred on him such deserved immortality, would lead us to suppose its author had within himself the most ample sources of philosophy, the most correct ideas of human nature, and the calmest resignation to the evils of humanity, was often as unhappy as the most miserable hypochondriac. Dr. Johnson, who had spent a long life in expatiating on the beauties of the christian religion, and exhorting his readers to place their dependence on another and a better world, as much regretted the approach of death, and had as great a desire to live as the most worldly-minded and ambitious man, whose treasures and whose heart were solely fixed on the earth. Goldsmith, possessing a heart "feelingly alive" to the wants and miseries of his fellow-creatures, and whose charity prompted him to give the last farthing towards the alleviation of their sufferings, had a portion of envy and jealousy in his breast, which put him in tortures at hearing the praise which was bestowed on others. Melancholy and madness clouded the days of the worthy Cowper, and the great Hamilton fell a sacrifice at the shrine of false honour.

When we reflect that the number of men of genius is so small, compared with the millions existing on the earth, how much is it to be regretted, that those to whom nature has been so liberal should ever be the victims of passion and prejudice! But how much more is it to be regretted, that any who possess talents of superior excellence, and extensive information, should employ them only in endeavouring to disseminate principles destructive of all order, and in introducing a general depravity of manners and morals! This class, unfortunately, has been numerous; and indeed many living instances might be adduced of men of genius and learning, whose conduct has caused nothing but mischief among mankind.

F.

* Reflections on Solitude.

For the Literary Magazine.

SPECIMEN OF POLITICAL IMPROVEMENT.

Continued from page 86.

THE grand object of human activity is fortune or wealth. How to employ talents and industry so as to convert a little money into a great deal is the subject which employs the faculties of the greater part of mankind. Those who pursue agriculture, as well as those who follow trade or handicraft, have no other object in view than to amass money: but there are some wide differences between the employment of a capital on land, and its employment in any other way. With regard to traders and artizans, the old remark is but too true, that one man can become rich only by making others poor. He adds nothing to the mass of provision or subsistence of the whole society. He only takes a larger share from the previously existing stock than he

had at first, and consequently the loss of others is exactly proportioned to his gain. Not so the farmer. His gain is inseparably connected with the increase of the general mass of human provision, and consequently others, instead of losing in proportion to his gains, are benefited in that proportion. He may indeed fail of enriching himself by his enterprizes. While he materially contributes to enrich the whole society, by making the quantity of food annually produced larger than it was before, his individual share may not be augmented by his efforts.

Those who employ their capital in agricultural improvement, in Great Britain, employ it under greater disadvantages than are incident to any other species of industry. They are commonly obliged to hire the use of the land, under such restrictions and burthens, and with a tenure so slavish and precarious, that their gains are necessarily both small and uncertain. The proprietors of land, who only can improve the ground with great and certain advantage, are generally disqualified, by prejudice and education, for any such attempts. They are habituated to expend all their revenue on their personal accommodation and ease. Their prejudices disincline them, and their ignorance disables them, from increasing their revenue by their own industry, though their avarice is eager enough to profit by the diligence of others.

Regarding the exertions of sir A—— as actuated by the ordinary motive which influences mankind, that of making himself richer than he was before, he could not possibly have adopted projects more essentially conducive to that end. In the course of 20 or 30 years, he raised his revenue to an amount very nearly ten times greater than it was at first. These projects were so far preferable to any others, that their success was no less, or even much more advantageous to all those within the sphere of their operation, than to himself. His riches were not built upon the poverty of others, but necessarily implied and caused their prosperity, and, however selfish his motive might be, he could, by no other application of his time, and talents, and money, more essentially promote the good of the whole society.

It would, however, be no small injustice to sir A——, to consider the sole or even the chief motive of his conduct as a mercenary one, and the general benefit accruing from his projects as merely incidental and undesigned. On the contrary, the power and property created by his projects were deemed of no value but as they were subservient to the general good. He applied himself originally to these projects, merely because his notions of duty compelled him to employ all his faculties for the benefit of others, and the great landed proprietor is so fortunate, that he cannot benefit others so effectually as by means which at the same time most effectually secure and advance to himself the great personal goods, property and power.

The great and little vulgar have, in general, no other conception of the use of increasing wealth, than to increase the size of their dwellings, the number of their servants, the splendour and variety of their dress, furniture, and equipage. They know no other value in money, but as it can be exchanged for something that conduces to their ease, or gratifies their vanity. The income of the year is made, they think, to be expended in the year; and their selfish gratification is equally the end they have in view, whether they expend a thousand guineas in filling their halls with guests, who arrive, glitter, and disappear, between the rise and set of the same sun; in purchasing a watch or other trinket, to be worn and displayed, in scenes of gay resort, as a token of superior wealth; in maintaining a mistress, or a pack of dogs; in building a temple or obelisk in their garden, in order to improve the prospect from their windows; in covering their walls with painted canvas, or filling gilded

cases with books. All these employments of money are not equally hurtful, or equally subservient to the end proposed; but in all of them the end proposed is the same, and has no connection with beneficence or charity.

There is another class who acquire a passion for money for its own sake. They will not exchange, for transitory or barren gratifications, all they obtain, but they either hoard up all or the greater part of it, or they loan it to others, receiving interest, or they purchase with it new lands or new houses, and thus increase their property or revenue, without, however, designedly or incidentally increasing the general wealth of the society; but, on the contrary, diminishing that of some other individual.

To neither of these classes did sir A—— belong. By marriage he came into possession of a tract of land which produced, without any other trouble than that of opening his hand to receive it, about five thousand pounds a year. By the same means he acquired considerable power over the welfare and condition of four thousand seven hundred persons. Unlike his predecessors, who received this sum through the hands of others, and indolently transferred their power to agents selected with no regard to their industry, knowledge, or benevolence, he went to the spot; inspected the condition of his tenants; accurately calculated the means of exalting their condition; of improving their morals; enlightening their understanding; and enlarging their comforts, by giving them more spacious and commodious dwellings, and better food, and better furniture. The primary expedient for effecting all these purposes was to make the ground more productive. He thus enriched the tenant, and, at the same time, encreased his own power of benefiting, by employing the value of a larger quantity of the products of the ground, in the fencing, building, planting, and stocking the land, hitherto imperfectly improved or quite neglected.

The whole annual revenue from this estate, which gradually mounted from 5000*l.* to 45,000*l.* sterling, was bestowed chiefly on the cultivation of the land. None of it was appropriated by sir A—— to his own personal expences. From the income of his English lands, he merely reserved, for family expences, about five hundred pounds a year. The residue went almost entirely to the little army of builders, fencers, and planters, which he constantly maintained. The sum realized and fixed on the surface of this territory, from 1750 to 1780, a period of thirty years, exceeded *four hundred thousand pounds*. The annual wages of his workmen were of course proportioned to their skill and merit, but a vast majority of them were liberally paid at twenty pounds a year. The above sum, if divided equally between thirty years, will be found sufficient to employ, during all that period, not less than *five hundred persons*.

I mention these things to prepare your mind for a more particular account of the things that have been done, which I shall take another opportunity of sending you, and to bring the general account I have already given you within the bounds of credibility.

But to improve the ground was far from being his sole design. To introduce sober and industrious habits among a race of tipplers and idlers was a necessary task, and a far more arduous one. He laboured to create, in his tenants, some desire for useful knowledge, and to supply them with the easy means of gratifying this new born desire.

Sir A—— was no visionary. He did not expect to transform men into philosophers and saints by the touch of his wand. Old habits he deemed incurable, and believed that there was no safety for the common weal but in new modelling the rising generation. The system, indeed, as he found it, was corrupted at the fountain; for, in the first place, the

ministers of religion were but little enlightened themselves; their manners were coarse and rude, and their diligence more exerted to procure a livelihood than to reclaim the reprobate. Their wages were scanty and mean, and paid stintingly and grudgingly. Being a certain portion of the produce in kind, the collection was difficult and painful, and made them be considered more as wolves to devour, than as shepherds to feed, the flock. Besides, their number, though large enough for the ancient population of the district, was much too small for the rapidly increasing population.

Education was anciently conducted on a miserable plan. On the cultivated land, and the houses in the town, there was a kind of perpetual charge or tax for the support of schools. This whole tax was no more than sufficient to pay twenty pounds a year a piece to five schoolmasters, who were bound to teach reading, writing, and arithmetic to boys of a certain age, whom their parents thought proper to send to them. The district seldom contained less than six or seven hundred boys of the prescribed age; a number by far too great, even if equally distributed, for five schools; but, in fact, these schools were badly attended, not only from the little esteem in which the masters were held, as from the small regard generally paid to book learning of any sort.

These were negative evils of no small magnitude; but by far the greatest positive mischief was the excessive use of whiskey. Prescription had invested the lord of C—— with the exclusive right of distilling and vending this pernicious liquid within the precincts of his barony. As none could be legally sold or imported without his permission, all that was exposed to sale without this warrant was liable to seizure and forfeiture. The idleness and ignorance of the people naturally created an attachment to this spirit, and the interest of the lord was concerned that the greatest quantity possible should be consumed, and that it should be sold at the highest price.

Various methods had been adopted by successive lords to make the most of this monopoly. The mode which indolence and rapacity would find most convenient to itself was that in which the proprietors finally adopted. The right of distilling was let out for an annual rent or payment, and a licence to sell the liquor granted on the same terms. These licences were renewable from year to year, and was naturally bestowed upon him that paid the most for it. The distiller likewise received authority to seize and confiscate, to his own use, all liquor brought into the barony, or sold within it, that came from any still but his own.

As the distiller's interest was to make the greatest possible profit of his contract, it was, of course, his business to purchase rye as cheap, and sell gin as dear, as possible. As the retailer's profit was levied upon the consumer, it was thus the common interest of the lord, the distiller, and the petty vender to encourage the passion for gin among the people, and to make the indulgence as expensive as possible.

In consequence of this system, every twentieth house in the district was a gin shop, and the passion for gin became universal. Infants of a few months old became familiar with the taste of it, and not one of a thousand of mature age was exempt from its destructive effects.

Your imagination may easily figure the endless train of evils that could not but flow from this prolific source. To shorten life, and to make it the prey of disease and imbecility while it lasts; to subvert utterly all industrious and frugal habits, and supplant them with a wild profusion and desperate indolence; to stupify the understanding into the dreary condition of idiocy; or work up the passions to madness, are the proper and unavoidable effects of a passion for gin. These effects, indeed, are less violent and

terrible as the use of it is more limited, but the difference between moderation and excess is only the difference between more or less disease, vice, poverty, and misery..... Any use of gin is properly excess, since a single drop must necessarily be hurtful, though in a small degree. Since it cannot be procured for nothing, and since the money spent in obtaining it is diverted from the purchase of necessaries to the purchase of a superfluity, to those who have no money to throw away, gin, in any shape or quantity, is a monstrous evil.

What exasperated the evil in the present case was the exorbitant price of the article. This circumstance had no effect in lessening the use of it, for this species of discouragement can never exist in a case where any price is really exorbitant, since any price is far too great for a superfluity, and where the facilities of obtaining it, and the the enticements to excess were, in other respects, so numerous and powerful.

Another evil connected with this system, was the fraud and violence to which it gave birth in the attempts of those who endeavoured to evade the law, by clandestinely importing or selling gin, and the injustice and oppression exercised by what may be termed a set of excise officers. The nature of their privilege made it necessary to invest the farmers, or monopolists, of this article with extensive and indefinite powers of entering houses and searching and arresting persons, and the abuses of this authority were innumerable.

To these evils no remedy could be expected from the lord, because his interest was supposed to be promoted by their existence, and even by their multiplication; and yet the profits of this monopoly were almost wholly intercepted by the *farmers* and the steward. The latter had the whole powers of the landlord, and resided on the spot, while the lord himself lived at a great distance, and was of course obliged to rely implicitly on the representations of his agent.

The existence of so large a tract of ground as a common, was, in various respects, extremely detrimental to the district. It was injurious to the health of the inhabitants..... Much of it was continually wet, and many hollows and low places were filled with stagnant water. The exhalations from these bogs and pools, in a warmer climate, would be fertile sources of bilious and pestilential fevers. As it was, obstinate agues were extremely prevalent in spring and autumn.

This circumstance considerably increased the natural asperity of the climate, and rendered it not only more uncomfortable and unwholesome to man, but also more ungenial to the soil. By making the fruits of the earth more scanty and precarious, and augmenting the necessity of shelter, clothing, and fuel, it multiplied the chances, and, at the same time, the hardships, of poverty.

The waste was really the property of the lord, but the tenants enjoyed a sort of implied privilege of turning their cattle upon it; of digging turf for family use; and gleaning from it, at pleasure, every kind of superficial product it afforded. It was the resort of a good deal of wild fowl, and some quadrupeds. These being abandoned to the tenants, afforded an irresistible temptation to hunt, and the passions for hunting and fishing united to deprave the minds of the people, and turn their attention from tillage. Foxes and other vermin found harbour among the rocks and furze, in great numbers, and the havock they committed in the poultry yards and corn fields, was no inconsiderable deduction from the profits of husbandry.

These evils, so intolerable in themselves, were occasionally carried to a most destructive pitch by the cruelty, the avarice, and the folly of those who enjoyed and abused the power of the landlord. The steward, chosen in the manner I have already described, could hard-

ly fail of being a dishonest man. He was generally some unprincipled member of the law, who banished himself to this dreary spot with no other view than to enable himself, by a residence of a few years, to pass the remainder of his life in ease and luxury.

His double object, therefore, was to fleece the tenant, and to rob the lord of as much as possible. In pursuit of this end, he could not be supposed to be deterred by any kindness to the tenants, to whom he was a stranger, not only in blood, but sometimes even in language; or by any regard to the future or permanent value of the property, because he was liable to be supplanted, in a year, by a higher bidder, and all his views of profit were closed by his departure from the place. The clan entertained an affection for their native lords as strong as was their abhorrence of these base-born and mercenary representatives; the steward, had he been of himself kindly disposed towards them, could hardly fail of having all his evil passions aroused by the stupidity or hatred of this half civilized race.

The evils arising from mismanagement alone had grown to an enormous height at the time of sir A——'s marriage. His wife's father, the last male of his family, was a man of mild temper and great humanity; but he received what is called a learned education, and had imbibed views and inclinations widely remote from those which might have qualified him for a prudent and generous landlord. He never saw his own patrimonial domain in his life. He was born at the family mansion in London; spent his youth at Oxford; and the first use he made of his manly freedom, was to pass into France and Italy, where he spent his days and his income in collecting the monuments of ancient and modern art, with which he enriched his London cabinets and galleries.

Shortly after his father's death he was persuaded to name, for his agent at C——, one Donald, who had been brought up with him as his valet; a shrewd and artful fellow, who found it easy to inspire his master with a high opinion of his fidelity, honesty, and capacity.

This man, who supplanted his more worthy predecessor by fraud and calumny, carried with him to C—— some of the worst passions which degrade human nature. He was avaricious, sensual, and cruel, and not only carried every prerogative of his station to its utmost limits, but perverted every one of them to the gratification of his abominable lusts. The lord only could redress these evils, by recalling his minister, but the lord was in a distant country, and was prevented from conceiving the possibility of such enormities, not only by his confidence in his quondam valet, but by his total ignorance of all things relating to his estate, but the money it produced. He was far better acquainted with the geography of ancient Latium than with that of Scotland.

After five years residence abroad, he married an Italian lady, and brought her to his native country, where he shortly after died, leaving an infant daughter, whose guardians had their own concerns to attend to, and were qualified, by neither their situation, their interest, or their education, to make any beneficial change in the old system.

Affairs thus proceeded for upwards of twenty years, during which Donald's career was unchecked, and his tyranny uncontrouled, by his superiors. In that time, he had contrived to lessen the population of the district one-third, by those whom he banished from the district, who exiled themselves, in order to escape his vengeance or oppression, or who had come to an untimely death, by his means. The very bonds of society were, in some degree, loosened, for a little community of outlaws had insensibly been formed in the ruggedest recesses of the *forest*, who subsisted on the product of little fields, which they illegally took from the waste, and in the pillage of their

peaceful neighbours, and who defended themselves, by force of arms, from the attacks of the steward.

At the age of fifteen, the orphan heiress was married to sir A——, and from that moment a gradual but rapid revolution commenced. Sir A—— lost no time in carrying his bride to his new domain. Donald was obliged to give a strict account of his administration to his new master; his statements were compared with testimony and appearances upon the spot; and his true character and conduct were fully comprehended by sir A——'s enlightened and experienced eye. To obtain impunity he was obliged to surrender the greatest part of the hoard he had been so industriously amassing, and this sum, instead of being forfeited to his superior, was repaid to those from whom it had been unjustly extorted.

He was patron of the five parishes of C——, and easily obtained their resignation of their benefices from the present possessors, on securing to them the payment of their salary in money, during the rest of their lives. The number of the future pastors was augmented to ten, and four petty officers were allotted to each church, as organist, sexton, and the like. The rector received three hundred pounds a year, two of his assistants one hundred a piece, and the other two fifty pounds a piece, the whole payable not as formerly, in kind, nor even by the occupants of house and land, but from the proprietor's own purse.

Persons were selected for this office whose learning, piety, and public spirit made them zealous promoters and coadjutors of all his schemes. New and commodious dwellings were erected for their accommodation, and the old crazy churches were supplanted by temples reared on a chaste, solid, and spacious plan.

The five petty teachers were dismissed to situations more lucrative and more suitable to their capacities. The number of schools was augmented to ten. Each teacher had four assistants, and all were paid in the same manner, and to the same amount, as the clerical order. Houses were allotted to them, with a good garden annexed to each, and a system of superintendance was carefully established, by which a succession of accomplished teachers, together with proper objects and proper methods of instruction, were effectually secured.

Having thus provided for the regular instruction of the young and the old, and secured the benefits of integrity and knowledge to the rising generation, it remained to rectify the prevalent evils by a due exercise of the power of a landlord. The abuse of spirituous liquors was at once extinguished by recalling all the licences to sell or manufacture the liquor, and by prohibiting the future importation or sale of it.... You may think, perhaps, that to effect this would require a stretch of authority, despotic and illegal; but, in truth, to effect all his purposes, sir A—— needed no laws nor penal sanctions; no power of fining, imprisoning, or whipping. The simple prerogative of every landlord to chuse his own tenant, rendered the will of sir A—— absolute within the precincts of C——. Those who disobeyed his commands, or rather those who opposed his wishes, were compelled to withdraw beyond these precincts. Nobody would sell liquor to their neighbours, because sir A—— refused to let them a house to sell it in, or even to shelter themselves. They could not build a booth or a hovel on land that was not their own, and nobody would harbour the seller or underlet to him, because he would thereby incur an ejectment himself.

This method of proceeding would not receive, in general, the name of punishment; and yet whether we consider its consequences to those subjected to it, or to the community at large, nothing that is called punishment is comparable to this. To the criminal, exile from his friends,

his relatives, and his clan, to be ejected from the vocation to which he was bred up, and from a possession which the wise arrangements of sir A—— made daily more eligible, was a punishment severer than imprisonment or death, while the safety of the whole society was far more effectually promoted by lopping off the diseased member in this way, than by the cruelty of executions, or the trouble and expence of imprisonment. To the lord nothing could be more convenient, because it abandoned every offender to his absolute discretion. In judging his people he was bound down by no laws, either written or prescriptive, and to no forms but the simple one of noticing his tenant to quit. He was, by this means, enabled to controul men in those relations in which they are exempted from ordinary laws. A bad master, a bad husband, a bad father, a bad neighbour, an idler, a tippler, a cock fighter, an inveterate sportsman are all exempted from any legal correction; but over these sir A—— extended his rod, and by exiling them for ever from his estate, not only freed the rest from actual molestation, and from the evils of a bad example, but gained an opportunity of supplying the place of an unsound member by a sound one. Every vacancy was ready to be filled from the overflowing population of his English estate, which furnished not only his fields with husbandmen, but his towns with artisans in abundance. And this will show you by what powerful motives sir A—— was influenced to retain his estate wholly in his own hands. By alienating house or land, or even by granting leases of considerable duration, it is evident that the true foundation of his power would be undermined, and the harmony of his system entirely destroyed.

In so large a property it was impossible to attend to every thing with his own eyes. Great industry, great sagacity, and great order will enable a single man to perform what will vulgarly be deemed impossible; and no man ever surpassed sir A—— in these qualities. To unfold minutely all the parts and branches of his system would demand a volume: I have found the greatest pleasure in studying this system, but cannot, at this time, pretend to give you more than a very loose and brief sketch.

The power of a steward, on this estate, was, as you have seen, combined with that of a magistrate. To share his power, in some degree, with others was made necessary by the extent of his estate. In the selection of his stewards, therefore, in prescribing and limiting their duties, in superintending their conduct, and guarding against abuses of every kind, his utmost caution and wisdom were requisite. In regulating the receipt and disbursement of so vast an annual sum as forty-seven thousand pounds, there was room and need for the most consummate skill in fiscal affairs.

He had a principal steward, and ten sub-stewards. The former received a salary of five hundred pounds a year, and the latter three hundred pounds a year a piece..... Each steward had two clerks and two messengers attached to his office; a clerk having one hundred pounds a year, and a messenger fifty. Besides these there was a receiver and a payer-general, who, at the same time, performed the office of bankers or cash keepers to the whole society. The expence of this latter office, which we may dignify with the name of *treasury*, was about one thousand pounds.

These allowances, by no means insignificant in themselves, were rendered very liberal by the general cheapness of provisions in the district; by the frugal modes of living in vogue; and by the privilege of a lodging and garden rent free, a privilege enjoyed by every one in the lord's service.

You will find, by a little calculation, that all the salaries I have enumerated, amount to about twenty thousand pounds; a sum far exceeding the original income of the

estate, though now only two-fifths of his annual revenue; a sum which gave a plentiful subsistence to upwards of one hundred and fifty worthy families, who held this subsistence by no other tenure than their good behaviour, or at the will of one man; a tenure too precarious in all other cases, but rendered certain and immutable by the wisdom of that one in the present case.

I need hardly observe that all these institutions were not adopted at once. On the contrary, the progress of things to the state above-described did no more than keep pace with the progress of population and improvement. To restrain the use of spirituous liquors, to convert the ignorant, idle, and profligate into diligent, and sober, and enlightened, was no work of a day. Sir A——'s benevolence met with innumerable obstacles, and his energy only surmounted them after the toil and perseverance of thirty years, and when the generation he found alive had almost totally been supplanted by strangers, or by a new generation. By placing the children in a situation wholly different from that of their parents, and by carefully instructing them in the elements of useful knowledge, the new race were as different in their minds and morals as in their external condition from those who preceded them. Great as this revolution was, and long the period in which it was effected, sir A—— had the happiness of seeing all his schemes accomplished before he had passed the meridian of life, and might entertain a well founded hope of enjoying, for at least another thirty years, the contemplation of a structure which he had been the same number of years in building.

A mind like sir A——'s, and his habits of activity, would hardly sit down at ease at this point. After paying all his salaries, and disbursing all the money necessary to sustain the system at the point to which raised it, he had a surplus revenue of near thirty thousand pounds.

Sir A—— was no hoarder of money. Still less was he likely to bestow his money upon transitory objects, upon gratifications which leave no vestige behind. Fifteen years have elapsed since C—— was put into the condition already described. Sir A—— is still alive, and as active and beneficent as ever, but what he has undertaken and completed since that period, though no less meritorious and memorable than his former projects, I shall relate on some future occasion.

For the Literary Magazine.

ON GRATITUDE.

THERE is a species of grateful remorse, which sometimes has been known to operate forcibly on the minds of the most hardened in impudence. Towards the beginning of the last century, an actor, celebrated for mimicry, was to have been employed by a comic author, to take off the person, manner, and singularly awkward delivery of the celebrated Dr. Woodward, who was intended to be introduced on the stage in a laughable character. The mimic dressed himself as a countryman, and waited on the doctor with a long catalogue of aliments, which he said attended on his wife. The physician heard with amazement, diseases and pains of the most opposite nature, repeated and redoubled on the wretched patient. Since the actor's wish was to keep Dr. Woodward in talk as long as possible, that he might make the more observations on his gestures, he loaded his poor imaginary spouse with every infirmity, which had any probable chance of prolonging the interview. At length, being master of his errand, he drew from his purse a guinea, and, with a scrape, made an uncouth offer of it. "Put up thy money, poor fellow," cried the doctor, "put up thy money. Thou hast need of all thy cash and all thy patience too with such a bundle of diseases tied to thy back."

The actor returned to his employer and recounted the whole conversation, with such genuine mimicry, that the author shouted with approbation. His raptures were soon checked, for the mimic told him, with the emphasis of sensibility, that he would sooner die, than prostitute his talents by rendering such genuine humanity a public laughing-stock.

A more grotesque instance of the sudden power of gratitude, may be produced in a well attested modern anecdote.

A parson Patten, of Whitstable, in Kent, was well known in his own neighbourhood, as a man of great oddity, great humour, and equally great extravagance. Once, standing in need of a new wig, his old one defying all further assistance from art; he went over to Canterbury, and applied to a barber, young in business, to make him one. The tradesman, who was just going to dinner, begged the honour of his new customer's company at his meal, to which Patten most readily consented. After dinner, a large bowl of punch was produced, and the reverend guest with equal readiness, joined in its demolition. When it was out, the barber was proceeding to business, and began to handle his measure, when Mr. Patten desired him to desist, saying he should not make his wig.

"Why not," exclaimed the astonished host, "have I done any thing to offend you, sir?"

"Not in the least," replied the guest, "but I find you are a very honest, good-natured fellow; so I will take *somebody else* in. Had *you* made it, you would never have been paid for it."

For the Literary Magazine.

HERALDIC ENTHUSIASM.

IT is probable that no science on on earth conveys to its votaries a greater degree of enthusiasm than that of heraldry. One instance, at least, can be brought, unmatched in any other.

The passage is taken from a scarce treatise in quarto, entitled "The Blazon of gentrie," (a book recommended by Peacham in his "Compleat Gentleman," as a book to be bought at any rate), and runs thus: "Christ was a gentleman, as to his flesh, by the part of his mother (as I have read), and might, if he had esteemed of the vayne glorey of this worlde (whereof he often sayde his kingdom was not) have borne coat-armour. The apostles, also (as my author telleth me), were gentlemen of bloud, and manye of them descended from that worthy conqueror, Judas Machabeus, but through the tract of time, and persecution of wars, poverty oppressed the kindred, and they were constrayned to servile workes."—p. 97.

In the same book we find the exact arms, properly blazoned, of Semiramis, queen of Babylon.

A sanguine Frenchman had so high an opinion of the pleasures to be enjoyed in the study of heraldry, that he used to lament the hard case of our forefather Adam, who could not possibly amuse himself by investigating that science, nor that of genealogy.

For the Literary Magazine.

ON PUNNING.

THE antiquity of punning is indubitable, and were it not that the ignoble term, a pun, would sound ill when connected with apostolic characters, we *could* produce authority highly respectable, indeed, in its favour. The Grecian oracles had lost their credit long before their cessation, had not punning stood them in stead. To reckon up ancient punsters would be an endless task. Plautus loved quibbling as much as Shakespeare did. Even the ancient sages of the law could

not refrain from punning; and we have as many quibbles of Cicero, nearly, as orations. He was not unhappy in his choice of puns, and among the rest, "Hoc est, verè, sepulchrum patris, colere," which he said of a man who, through avarice, ploughed up the burying-place of his family, may take rank nearly as a pun.

Almost the whole artillery of those wits, who adorned the centuries before the last, was supplied from the abundant magazine of puns; and the great restorer of Italian poetry, the celebrated Petrarch, not contented with punning on his mistress' name, in almost every one of his hundreds of sonnets, takes that beloved word into pieces, in his fifth, and puns upon every separate syllable; and this not contenting him, he drags in Homer, literally, by the head and *shoulders*, and puns upon *him* too.

Punning is treated with an unequalled species of cruelty; it is abhorred even while it amuses; and the very horse laugh which it seldom fails to raise round the convivial board, is almost always accompanied by detractive exclamations of "Oh, oh, this is *too* bad." "I am *ashamed* of this," and the like; while the blushing punster, actually shrinking from the mirth which he has created, feels himself hurt at each burst of laughter, and generally takes great pains to convince the company, that he never punned before, nor will ever pun again. Yet a pun never loses a friend, nor, except in aukward hands, tinges the cheek of innocence. No families are set at variance by a pun, no reputations lost, no female honour tainted.

For the Literary Magazine.

MEDICAL ANECDOTES.

THERE was a time, when physicians were bound to a strict attention towards the welfare of their patients, by somewhat besides the consideration of their own credit and future profit; for, at Dijon, in 1386, a physician was fined, by the bailiff, fifty golden franks, besides being imprisoned, for not having completed the cures of some persons, whose recovery he had undertaken. And the beautiful Austrigilda, consort to Gontran, king of Burgundy, had, in the sixth century, been permitted by her husband, in compliance with her dying request, to have her two physicians slain, and buried with her: whether from attachment to them, or by way of punishment for their ill success in her case, is not said.

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The common jocular advice given to persons who are sick from the effects of intoxication, the night before, "to take a hair of the same dog," seems to be derived from a ridiculous mode of cure, prescribed to persons bitten by a mad dog, in a French treatise, entitled "La Medecine aisée," written by "Le Clerc, Conseiller-medecin du Roy," published at Paris, 1719. He tells us, "Pour la cure de la playe, mettez dessus du poil du chien qui a mordu. C'est la remede de Paré."

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The art of examining and curing wounds was, by writers of romance, allotted to princesses, and damsels of high birth. In later days, Buchanan writes, that the Scots nobility were remarkably dexterous in the chirurgical art; and he says of James IV of Scotland, "Quod vulnera scientissimé tractaret."

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"Are you out of sorts," says the facetious Montaigne, "that your physician has denied you the enjoyment of wine, and of your favourite dishes? Be not uneasy; apply to me, and I engage to find you one of equal credit, who shall put you under a regimen perfectly opposite to that settled by your own adviser."

In 1393, physicians were so low in esteem at the French court, that they were actually superceded in their attendance on the unfortunate Charles VI of France, by a professed necromancer. Madame de Lussan tells us, and the story, strange as it is, is confirmed by good authorities, that the unhappy prince's health was entrusted to the care of one Arnaud Guillen, who undertook to restore him to his senses, by dint of magic. This wizard vaunted the possession of a book, entitled "Smagorod," which, he said, the Almighty had given to Adam, to console him for the death of Abel, whose fate that unhappy parent had unceasingly lamented during one hundred years. He failed, however, as every physician had failed before him. "He had found a charm," he said, "which oppressed the royal understanding; but it was too powerful for his spells to remove." He was driven from the court with disgrace, but his doctrine, as to the cause of the king's malady, gained ground among the people.

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Towards the close of the fifteenth century, Lorenzo de Medicis, of Florence, died of a disease which, it is said, might have been cured, had not Leoni, a celebrated physician of Spoleto, left too much to nature, and avoided to use any medicine whatever. Lazaro, an inhabitant of Pavia, equally celebrated for medical skill with Leoni, having made this error publicly known, raised the resentment of the deceased prince's friends to so high a pitch, that it proved fatal to the mistaken physician. For Pietro, son to Lorenzo, a youth who, though aged only seventeen years, was able to foil the most expert wrestler, happening to meet the unfortunate Leoni near the brink of a deep well, sent him headlong into the water, where, being old and feeble, he was suffocated, though he received speedy assistance.

Marville remarks, that no persons are so apt as physicians to quit their profession, and follow different walks of literature, and confirms his observation, by producing a very long catalogue of men, of various nations, who have resigned the study of medicine, for that of geometry, of medals, of poetry, and the like. He accounts for it ingeniously enough from the vast extent of reading, through which physicians must of necessity pass, and which is likely to set before them objects much more pleasing than those of which they are in search.

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Jacques Coetier, a physician, was the only person who could keep in awe the turbulent, uneven spirit of Louis IX, of France. He governed him by making a proper use of that dread of death, to which he knew the king was subject to a degree so ridiculous, that he once actually stopped a priest, who, after having prayed for the health of his body, was beginning to implore heaven for his *future* welfare. "Hold! hold!" cried he, "you have gone far enough for once. Never be tiresome in your address to God Almighty. Stop now, and pray for my *soul*, *another time*." Coetier, thoroughly acquainted with this infirmity, used to say to him, "One of these days, you will send *me* packing, I suppose, as I have seen you act by your other servants; but, mark my words, if you *do*, by ——, you will not live eight days after it." By repeating this menace, he not only kept himself in his station, but persuaded the pusillanimous king to appease him with great and valuable presents. On his part, he certainly paid great attention to the condition of his royal master's mind, which was frequently almost in a state of phrenzy. To amuse him during his long indispositions, he contrived to have rural dances performed under his chamber window; and, to make up for the king's inability to enjoy the pleasures of the

chace, the ingenious physician collected cats and huge rats, and diverted his dying patient by letting him see combats between these discordant animals.

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In the sixteenth century, the Jews were looked upon to be more expert in the art of medicine than any other persons. Francis I, of France, being exceedingly ill, and finding no relief from his own physicians, sent to his old rival and enemy, Charles V, for one of the Hebrew race. The emperor sent him one who had been converted. This did not satisfy the French monarch; he applied to the court of Constantinople, for an obstinate, unbaptised Israelite. One such accordingly attended on him, and, by the help of asses milk, effected his cure.

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It is asserted in a French book, entitled "Le nouveau Cours de Chimie," that the discovery of the powers resident in antimony, was owing to the celebrated Basilius Valentinus, who, finding it had the property of fattening pigs, tried it, heaven knows with what connection of ideas, on a convent of monks. Unluckily, instead of improving the condition of these holy men, it killed them by dozens, whence it obtained the name of "Anti-moine." Paracelsus attempted to bring it, notwithstanding this misadventure, into credit, but he too failed, and it was not until very late times, that the virtues of that very useful medicine were universally allowed.

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Few medical people have acted so fairly by their patients as "Dr. Anthony Storck, aulic counsellor and chief physician to the empress queen," who, before he recommended the use of the meadow-saffron root (a known poison), to those afflicted with the dropsy, and other diseases, tried it upon himself, in a crude state, until he was brought to the door of death; he then having, with difficulty, recovered, and having found a method of checking the poisonous qualities of the root, by infusing it in vinegar, made another experiment on himself, and, finding no evil consequences, administered the decoction with success to others.

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La Mothe le Vayer, observing that Pherecides, preceptor to Pythagoras, Anaximander, and Abaris foretold earthquakes, asks this humorous question: "If we consider the earth as a huge animal, had not these the art of feeling its pulse, and thereby of foreseeing the convulsions it would be troubled with?"

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The celebrated Florentine physician, Andrea Baccio, who has been styled the Italian Radcliffe, for his astonishing penetration as to diseases, resembled that singular man also in the blunt method of delivering his sentiments. He was one day called to attend on a woman of quality. He went, felt her pulse, and asked her "how old she was?" She told him "above fourscore." "And how long *would* you live?" said the cross physician, quitting her hand, and making the best of his way out of her house.

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"Your unchristian virulence against me," said a Huguenot who had been persecuted for preaching, "shall cost hundreds of people their lives." This menace brought the author into trouble; he was cited to a court of justice, and was charged with harbouring the most bloody designs against his fellow subjects. "I am innocent," said he, "of all you lay to my account. My only meaning was, that I meant, since I could not act as a minister, to practise as a physician."

—

That pleasant philosopher, Montaigne, offers a whimsical consolation to those afflicted with the gout, gravel, rheumatism, and the like. "These," said he, "are symptoms

of a long life, just as heat, cold, rain, and hail are the attendants on every long journey."

For the Literary Magazine.

QUACKERY.

ALTHOUGH our modern quacks take a very large range, as to the disorders which they assert their power of curing, there are yet advertisements to be found in the original edition of the Spectator, which was first printed as a newspaper, that lay claim to the extirpation of three complaints which now bid defiance to "tinctures," "confects," and "electuaries."

"An incomparable pleasant tincture, to restore the sense of smelling, though lost for many years, a few drops of which being snuffed up the nose, infallibly cures those who have lost their smell, let it proceed from what cause soever. It admirably cures all obstructions in the olfactory or smelling nerves, comforts and strengthens the head and brain, and revives the smelling faculty to a miracle, and perfectly cures, so as to cause the person to smell as quick and as well as any one in the world. Price 2s. 6d. a bottle. Sold only at Mr. Payne's toy-shop, at the Angel and Crown, in St. Paul's Church-yard, near Cheapside, with directions."

—

"An admirable confect, which assuredly cures stuttering and stammering in children or grown persons, though ever so bad, causing them to speak distinct and free, without any trouble or difficulty; it remedies all manner of impediments in the speech, or disorders of the voice of any kind, proceeding from what cause soever, rendering those persons capable of speaking easily and free, and with a clear voice, who before were not able to utter a sentence without hesitation. Its stupendous effects, in so quickly and infallibly curing stuttering, stammering, and all disorders of the voice, and difficulty in delivery of the speech, are really wonderful. Price 2s. 6d. a pot, with directions. Sold only at Mr. Osborne's toy-shop, at the Rose and Crown, under St. Dunstan's church, Fleet-street."

—

"Loss of memory, or forgetfulness, certainly cured, by a grateful electuary, peculiarly adapted for that end: it strikes at the prime cause, which few apprehend, of forgetfulness, makes the head clear and easy, the spirits free, active, and undisturbed, corroborates and revives all the noble faculties of the soul, such as thought, judgment, apprehension, reason, and memory, which last, in particular, it so strengthens, as to render that faculty exceeding quick and good beyond imagination; thereby enabling those whose memory was before almost totally lost, to remember the minutest circumstance of their affairs, &c. to a wonder! Price 2s. 6d. a pot. Sold only at Mr. Payne's, at the Angel and Crown, in St. Paul's Church-yard, with directions."

—

"An assured cure for *leanness*, which proceeds from a cause which few know, but easily removed by an unparalleled specific tincture, which fortifies the stomach, purifies the blood, takes off fretfulness in the mind, occasions rest, and easy sleep, and as certainly disposes and causes the body to thrive and become plump and fleshy, if no manifest distemper afflicts the patients, as water will quench fire. It is also the best remedy in nature for all chronic diseases that take their rise from a bad digestion in the stomach, which this specific tincture infallibly rectifies, and thereby cures. It is pleasant to taste, and is sold only at Mr. Payne's toy-shop (as before). Price 3s. 6d. a bottle, with directions."

POETRY.....ORIGINAL.

For the Literary Magazine.

LINES,

WRITTEN BY THE LATE DR. J. B. LINN, IN A BLANK LEAF OF PARADISE LOST.

THOU first of bards, whom God did not inspire,
Oh let me listen to thine awful lyre!
Thy heavenly song might win an angel's ear,
And draw for fallen man a seraph's tear.
Here in thy pages let me trace and find
The soarings of a spirit unconfin'd;
Here let me trace that bold eventful plan,
That justifies the ways of God to man.
Though plung'd thy vision in the depths of night,
On wing thy spirit sought the realms of light;
For from this little earth it urg'd its way,
And bask'd and wanton'd in the flood of day.
Up to the courts where sits our God and King,
O let me follow thy ascending wing:
There let me hear that uncreated voice,
At which worlds tremble, and the saints rejoice;
Which spake, and slumbering nature took its form;
Which rolls the thunder, and drives on the storm;
Which form'd from sluggish earth the human frame,
And breath'd within a pure etherial flame.

Hark! what a sound breaks from the depths below!
What yells of fury, and what shrieks of woe!
Hurl'd from the skies, lo! Satan and his train
Toss'd on the billows of unceasing pain;
There see him rally his terrific bands,
Who bade defiance to a God in arms;
And, by the glimmerings of infernal light,
Wing his huge way amid the deeps of night.

Oh bear me from these shades of black despair,
And let me follow through thy fields of air;
Let me roll onward in thy flying car,
Or, with an angel, on a shooting star,
Let me alight on new-born earth, and rove
With vagrant feet o'er valley, stream, and grove.
Great God! what wonders meet my searching eyes!
Worlds circling worlds, on systems systems rise!
A burning orb darts his propitious ray,
And all the darkness kindles into day.
And when he quenches in the wave his light,
The pale moon wanders through the hosts of night;
She calls the stars to light their silver beam,
And with her visit mountain, vale, and stream.

For the Literary Magazine.

THE SERENADE.

Still was the night; all nature calm'd in peace:
No more the watch-dog howl'd adown the farm,
The tuneful night-bird bid its carol cease,
The wolf, in silence lost, forgot to harm.

Not e'en a rustling leaf was heard to move,
Its undulations paus'd the very air,
As if afraid its zephyrs from above
To dark the scene some envious cloud might bear.

The red full moon was rising in the east,
Tinging with blood the edges of the sky:
Their glittering orbs the twinkling stars increas'd,
As through the azure vault they gently fly.

Wild ocean hush'd the billows of his rage,
Spreading the glassy surface of his plain
To catch the moon-beams, as they mild engage
The yielding softness of his wat'ry main.

'Twas then Eugenio restless left his bed,
To sing the music of the serenade;
To Lydia's window his affection led,
Where breathing softly on his flute he play'd.

As by the church that frowns on yonder hill
He pass'd, e'er yet her cottage met his sight,
The notes, obedient to their master's will,
In sound melodious broke the calm of night.

When from the tombs, where shrouded spectres lie,
In awful voice was sung responsive lays;
In shrieks the faithful youth was bid to die,
And told the shorten'd period of his days.

"Hear, young Eugenio, hear thy destin'd lot,
Proceed not onward to thy Lydia's bed:
Here, stopping, chuse a still and silent spot,
Amid the tombstones of departed dead.

"We hail thee now to death's bedarken'd shore,
We led the path which gives eternal night;
On thee we quickly shut the closing door,
Which bars thee out for ever from the light.

"For e'er the morning sun, with distant ray,
Shall shed the mildness of his twilight beam,
We draw the curtain of thy parting day,
Nor leave the pausing of a trembling gleam."

Thus howling sung the spectred shades of death;
When from the honest youth this language came:
"I'll sing my Lydia with my latest breath,
I'll dying call upon my Lydia's name."

Now had the humble cottage met his view,
Humble, but honest, its possessors were,
Whose hearts, to honour and to virtue true,
Forbid Ambition's idle thoughts to stir.

Now 'neath the window stood th' admiring youth,
Now had his fingers gently touch'd the flute,
Prepar'd to breathe the sonnet of his truth:
Such soft ideas as a lover suit.

"Ye forms unseen, who on the star-beams ride,
Who guard the couch where sleeping virtue lies,
Who keep the cherub night-watch at her side,
Expel the gentle slumber from her eyes.

"She wakes—yon stars that feebly glimmer now,
Bespeak the open'd lustre of her eye;
Yon lofty steep, with snow-encircled brow,
Turns dark, contrasted with her purer dye.

"Forgive the bold presumption of my love;
Smile on the swain, who thus has dar'd to break
The happy moments which around thee move;
Oh him, my Lydia, to thy bosom take!

"From origin divine Forgiveness sprung,
Long had she wander'd far a home to find;
At length she sat persuasive on thy tongue,
And form'd the model of thy heav'nly mind.

" No longer lock'd in gentle Sleep's embrace,
Wak'd by my rude sound waving on the air,
Oh! rise, my Lydia, with majestic grace,
Oh! answer sigh with sigh, my lovely fair.

" The softest note which Art melodious gives,
With the still softer music of thy sigh,
Where mild and virtuous love impassion'd lives,
In vain to rival would contending try.

" I sing thee, Lydia, listen to my lay;
Close not thine ear on love's delightful sound;
I sing thy beauty through the sun-bright day,
Or when the moon rides on its airy round."

The sound now trembling seem'd to die away:
She anxious listen'd to the parting note,
As at a distance now it seem'd to play,
Now hush'd on air no more was heard to float.

The tired earth a solemn silence chain'd,
'Twas midnight now, when ghastly spectres flit
O'er ground by blood of sainted virtue stain'd,
Or on the secret grave bemoaning sit.

" Why stop, my love, so soon?" exclaim'd the maid;
" Why leave thy Lydia at this hour alone?
'Twill soon be morn in rosy robe array'd."
He answer'd only with a deep-drawn groan.

" Speak, my Eugenio, why be silent now,
Save when thy groans the dismal stillness break?
At Terror's touch my tears begin to flow,
My trembling limbs with rude convulsions shake."

No more she trembles at the window's height,
But swift descends to where her lover lay:
She views him bleeding by the moon's pale light,
And kiss'd the purple torrent soon away.

Then in despair to heaven her eyes she raised,
But drew them back with wildness and affright;
For fierce Lorenzo on his victim gaz'd;
His blood-stain'd sword terrific met her sight.

" Behold yon arbour, where the zephyrs sport
O'er the soft rose leaf and the lilly white,
When to each fragrant flower they pay their court,
Sipping their odour with renew'd delight:

" 'Twas there I deign'd to humble at thy feet;
There pour'd my vows at beauty's giddy shrine;
You smil'd, yes, placid smil'd, with mildness sweet;
Illusive hope, I thought you would be mine.

" 'Twas the base smile that gilds the false one's face,
When art attempts the thoughtless heart to chain."
" 'Tis false, thou human monster! man's disgrace!
I smil'd contemptuous; never us'd I art:

" Ne'er could I love the wretch, whose murd'rous hand
Would drive th' assassin's pointed poignard deep.
A secret horror bids thee further stand,
Or nearer in my blood thy weapon steep."

" There now unmoving lies thy dying swain;
See on his lip how trembling sits his breath;
See too he writhes with agonizing pain;
Now sinks expiring in the arms of death.

"This arm, this mighty arm, first gave the blow;
Beneath this arm has sunk thy fallen swain;
Now let-thy love with time increasing grow,
Now hand in hand walk o'er the verdant plain.

"Revenge! I hail thee. Welcome to my breast
Each fiend that riots on the blood of man:
I stand a murd'rer at thy shrine confest;
I form my actions on thy vengeful plan.

"Oh! what a scene to see the torrent run,
In purple streamlets, thro' the op'ning wound:
Then was the mighty word of death begun,
But soon its icy chains my rival bound.

"Say, did I tremble? did I stand aghast?
No, deep in flesh I sheath'd my glitt'ring blade.
Bethink thee, Lydia, of thy pleasure past,
Go join, in realms of death, his wand'ring shade."

Then plung'd his steel into her trembling breast,
Which bent, as conscious of the heinous deed;
Not mercy from his hand the sword could wrest,
Pleas'd he could gaze, and see the maiden bleed.

On dead Eugenio's corpse by chance she fell,
Her lips met his, e'er life a passage found;
There paus'd a moment, as in hopes to dwell,
Then kiss'd, and stiff'ning roll'd upon the ground.

Near yon tall yew, which mournful waves its head,
To parent earth their bodies are consign'd;
No foot prophane dare o'er their grave to tread,
For sighs are heard upon the passing wind.

YELSE.

SELECTED.

THE CONJUGAL BANQUET.

[Quail is an old word for quarrel; jar for the ruff and ree; a pout is the whiting pout.]

TWELVE sorts of meats my wife provides,
Nor fails me of a dish,
Four are of flesh, of fruit are four,
The other four of fish.

For the first course, she stores my board
With birds that dainties are,
And first, a quail, and next a rail,
A bittern and a jar.

With these my appetite when cloy'd,
For fish she renders sharp,
And serves me up a lump, a pout,
A gudgeon and a carp.

Then the desert with fruit abounds,
All fitting well the seasons,
A medlar and an artichoke,
A crab and good sound *raisins*.

How can a man have such a wife,
And not upon her doat,
Who every day provides him fare
Which costs him not a groat?

SELECTIONS.

KLOPSTOCK AND HIS ODES.

FRIEDERICH Gottlieb Klopstock was born in 1723, at Quedlinburg, and undertook early the Messiah, of which five books were published in 1751. The Death of Adam, and other religious tragedies, which appeared in 1767, preceded, about two years, his chorus-dramas concerning Herman. His odes and hymns were collected in 1771, and his prose in 1774. From the Danish court he obtained the salary and title of counsellor of legation, less for diplomatic services, or for odes to Frederic V, than because that great minister Bernstorff deemed it the duty of Denmark to confer independence on resident genius, exerted in behalf of liberty, religion, and morality. Klopstock died at Hamburg, on the 14th of March, 1803, just eighty years old: his funeral procession was accompanied by the most distinguished inhabitants.

Klopstock began, in 1798, to superintend a new and complete edition of his works. The first six volumes have alone received his last corrections: they contain the odes and the Messiah. The remaining volumes will be printed from the latest editions of the other works, and are to include a biography of the author; who ranks highly among the poets of his country, and indeed very highly among the poets of Europe.

The serious ode, is, of all forms of metrical composition, the most poetic; it is that which will bear the most uncommon turns of phrase, the boldest tropes, and the most dazzling imagery. It presupposes in the poet a higher degree of intellectual excitement, a more exalted, or impassioned state of mind, during the composition, than any other effort. It is contrary, however, to human nature, that intense emotion should be lasting: it follows, that no effusion, in which it is implied, should be long. The most rapturous and pathetic odes of the great masters are therefore generally short: nor is it so much from the importance of the topic, as from the genius of the artist, that they derive their interest: the latter aims, as Pindar expresses it, high as a mortal arm may hope to hurl the glittering shafts of praise. His end and purpose should however be single and definite; of his scope and intention he ought never to lose sight; brilliancy is no apology for incoherency: whatever is unconnected with the end in view, however striking, is but a splendid sin. This theory is well illustrated by the odes of Klopstock: he does not lose himself in those mazes of description, nor cluster together that bewildering variety of imagery, which usually constitutes the essence of an English ode; but his feelings are strong, his images lofty, his diction bold; and his thoughts stride as it were on stilts, so as to elude for a time the detection of their starting place; without deviating, however, from their proper path.

GAMING.

THE late colonel Daniel took great pleasure in giving advice to young officers, guiding them in their military functions, the management of their pay, and the like. Whenever he was on the article of gaming, he used to tell the following story of himself as a warning to others, and to show that a little resolution may conquer this absurd passion.

In queen Anne's wars, he was an ensign in the English army, then in Spain: but he was so absolutely possessed by this demon, that all duty, and every thing that thwarted his darling passion, was to him most grievous: he scarcely allowed himself time for rest; or, if he slept, his dreams presented packs of cards

to his eyes, and the rattling of dice to his ears:—his meals were neglected, or if he attended them, he looked upon the minutes thus employed, as so much lost time; he swallowed his meat with precipitation, and hurried again to the gaming-table. In short, he was a professed gamester.

For some time fortune was his friend; insomuch that he often spread his winnings on the ground, and rolled himself on them, that it might be said of him, "he wallowed in gold." Such was his life during a considerable time; but, as he often said, and every considerate man must agree with him, "it was the most miserable part of it."

After some time, he was ordered on recruiting duty, and, at Barcelona, he raised one hundred and fifty recruits for the regiment; though this was left entirely to his serjeant, that he might be more at leisure to gratify his darling passion. After some changes of good and ill luck, fortune declared so openly against him, that, in one unlucky run, he was stript of the last shilling. In this distress he applied to a captain of his regiment, for a loan of ten guineas; which was refused with this speech, "What! lend my money to a professed gamester! No sir, I must be excused: for I must necessarily lose either my money or my friend; I therefore choose to keep my money."

With this taunting refusal he retired to his lodging, where he threw himself on the bed, to lay himself and his sorrows to a momentary rest, during the heat of the day. A gnat, or some such vermin, happening to bite him, he awoke; when his melancholy situation immediately presented itself. Without money! and no prospect of getting any to subsist himself and the recruits to the regiment, then at a great distance: and should they desert for want of pay, he must be answerable for it; and he could expect nothing but cashiering for injuring the queen's service. He had no friend; for he whom he had esteemed such had not only refused to lend him money, but had added taunts to the refusal. He had no acquaintance there, and strangers, he knew, would not let him have a sum answerable to his wants. This naturally led him to reflect seriously on what had induced him to commence gamester; and this he presently perceived was idleness. He had now found the cause, but the cure was still wanting: how was that to be effected so as to prevent a relapse? Something must be done: some method must be pursued so effectually to employ his time, as to prevent his having any to throw away at gaming. It then occurred to him, that the adjutancy of the regiment was to be disposed of; and this he determined to purchase, as a post the most likely to find him sufficient and laudable employment for all his time. He had letters of credit for any sum necessary to his promotion in the army; but not to throw away idly, or to encourage his extravagance. This was well: but the main difficulty remained, and he must get to the regiment before he could take any steps towards the intended purchase, or draw for the sum required. While endeavouring to fall upon some expedient to extricate himself, his friend, who had refused him in the morning, paid him a visit. After a very cool reception on the colonel's side, the other began by asking him, what steps he intended to take to relieve himself from his difficulties? The colonel then told him all that he had thought on that head, and the resolution he had made of purchasing the adjutancy as soon as he could join the regiment: his friend then getting up and embracing him, said, "My dear Daniel, I refused you in the morning in that abrupt manner, merely to bring you to a sense of the dangerous situation you were in, and to make you reflect seriously on the folly of your present way of life. I heartily rejoice it has had the desired effect. Pursue the laudable resolution you have made, for be assured that *idleness and gaming are the ruin of*

youth. My purse, as well as my interest and advice are now at your command; there, take what is necessary to subsist yourself and recruits to the regiment." This presently brought the colonel off the bed: and this afternoon's interview entirely obliterated the harshness of his friend's refusal in the morning; he now viewed him in the agreeable light of a sincere friend, and for ever after esteemed and found him such. The colonel set off with his recruits for the regiment, where he gained great applause for his success, which, as well as his commission, he had well nigh lost by one morning's folly: he immediately solicited and purchased the adjutancy, and from that day forward never touched cards or dice, but, as they ought to be used, merely for diversion, or to unbend his mind after too close an attention to serious affairs.

YOUNG'S NIGHT THOUGHTS.

In a letter to a young lady.

THE originality and high reputation of this performance undoubtedly entitle it to the notice of all students of English poetry: yet I feel some hesitation in speaking of it to you in recommendatory terms. Against any bad effect it might have upon your literary taste, I think you are sufficiently fortified by the number of excellent productions which have been submitted to your perusal; but I cannot be so secure with respect to its influence upon your sentiments in more important points. "What! (it will be said) can you doubt to put into the hands of a female pupil the admired work of the pious and seraphic Young?" A short view of the spirit in which he wrote it, and the system upon which it is formed, will explain my doubts.

The writer was a man of warm feelings, ambitious both of fame and advancement. He set out in life upon an eager pursuit of what is chiefly valued by men of the world; attached himself to patrons, some of them such as moral delicacy would have shunned, and was not sparing in adulation. His rewards, however, were much inferior to his expectations; he lived, as he himself says, "to be so long remembered, that he was forgot," and he was obliged to bury his chagrin in a country parsonage. He also met with domestic losses of the most affecting kind, and he possessed little vigour of mind to bear up against misfortune. In this state he sat down to write his "Complaint," (for that is the other title of the Night Thoughts,) at a time when he was haunted with the "ghosts of his departed joys," and every past pleasure "pained him to the heart." His first object, therefore, is to dress the world in the colours of that "night" through which he surveyed it;—to paint it as a scene

> Where's nought substantial but our misery;
> Where joy (if joy) but heightens our distress.

In his progress he endeavours to pluck up by the roots every comfort proceeding from worldly hopes or human philosophy, and to humble the soul to the dust by a sense of its own vileness, and the inanity of every thing terrestrial. This prepares the way for the administration of the grand and sole remedy for the evils of life—the hope of immortality as represented in the christian revelation. His view of this scheme is of the most awful kind. He conceives a wrathful and avenging God, on the point of dooming all his offending, that is, all his rational, creatures to eternal destruction, but diverted from his purpose by the ransom paid in the sufferings and death of his Son. I do not take upon me to pronounce concerning the soundness of his theology; but so deep is the gloom it spreads over his whole poem, that, in effect, it overpowers the light of his consolation. There is a kind of captious austerity in all

his reasonings concerning the things of this world, that charges with guilt and folly every attempt to be happy in it. Every circumstance is dwelt upon that can image life as vain and miserable; and lest any gladsome note should cheer the transitory scene, he perpetually sounds in the ears the knell of death. Such a picture of this world, I am sure, is ill calculated to inspire love for its Creator; and I think it as little fitted to foster the mutual charities of life, and put men in good humour with each other. What a contrast to the amiable theology of the Seasons!

I cannot wish therefore that the Night Thoughts should become your favourite—that you should ponder over it, and make it your closet companion. Yet, as a work of genius, it is certainly entitled to admiration; and many of its striking sentences concerning the abuse of time, the vanity of frivolous pursuits, the uncertainty of human enjoyments, and the nothingness of temporal existence compared to eternal, are well worthy of being impressed upon the memory. No writer, perhaps, ever equalled Young in the strength and brilliancy which he imparts to those sentiments which are fundamental to his design. He presents them in every possible shape, enforces them by every imaginable argument, sometimes compresses them into a maxim, sometimes expands them into a sentence of rhetoric, sets them off by contrast, and illustrates them by similitude. It has already been observed, in speaking of his satires, how much he abounds in antithesis. This work is quite overrun with them; they often occupy several successive lines; and while some strike with the force of lightning, others idly gleam like a meteor. It is the same with his other figures: some are almost unrivalled in sublimity; many are to be admired for their novelty and ingenuity; many are amusing only by their extravagance. It was the author's aim to say every thing wittily; no wonder, therefore, that he has often strayed into the paths of false wit. It is one of his characteristics to run a thought quite out of breath; so that what was striking at the commencement, is rendered flat and tiresome by amplification. Indeed, without this talent of amplifying, he could never have produced a work of the length of the Night Thoughts from so small a stock of fundamental ideas.

I cannot foresee how far the vivacity of his style, and the frequent recurrence of novel and striking conceptions, will lead you on through a performance which, I believe, appears tedious to most readers before they arrive at the termination. Some of the earlier books will afford you a complete specimen of his manner, and furnish you with some of his finest passages. You will, doubtless, not stop short of the third book, entitled "Narcissa," the theme of which he characterises as

'Soft, modest, melancholy, female, fair.'

It will show you the author's powers in the pathetic, where the topic called them forth to the fullest exertion; and you will probably find that he has mingled too much fancy and playfulness with his grief, to render it highly affecting.

The versification of Young is entirely modelled by his style of writing. That being pointed, sententious, and broken into short detached clauses, his lines almost constantly are terminated with a pause in the sense, so as to preclude all the varied and lengthened melody of which blank verse is capable. Taken singly, however, they are generally free from harshness, and sometimes are eminently musical.

YOUNG'S SATIRES.

DR. YOUNG wrote seven satires, called "The Love of Fame, the universal passion," in which he illus-

trates by example this principle of human conduct. Like all other theorists, who aim at simplicity in their explanation of the varieties of human character, he has laid more stress upon his principle than it will bear; and in many of the portraits which he draws, the love of fame can scarcely be recognised as a leading feature. Indeed, Young was a writer of much more fancy than judgment. He paints with a brilliant touch and strong colouring, but with little attention to truth; and his satires are rather exercises of wit and invention, than grave displays of human follies and vices. He, indeed, runs through the ordinary catalogue of fashionable excesses, but in such a style of whimsical exaggeration, that his examples have the air of mere creatures of fancy. His pieces are, however, entertaining, and are marked with the stamp of genius. Having much less egotism than those of Pope, they have a less splenetic air; and the author's aim seems to be so much more to show his wit, than to indulge his rancour, that his severest strokes give little pain.

Young's satires are strings of epigrams. His sketches of characters are generally terminated by a *point*, and many of his couplets might be received as proverbial maxims or sentences. Such are the following:

Men should press forward in fame's glorious chace;
Nobles look backward, and so lose the race.—

There is no woman where there's no reserve,
And 'tis on plenty your poor lovers starve.—

The man who builds and wants wherewith to pay,
Provides a home from which to run away.

A common figure of speech with him is the *antithesis*, where two members of a sentence, apparently in opposition to each other, are connected by a subtle turn in the sense. Thus:

And *satirise* with nothing but their *praise*.—

'Tis *inhumanity* to *bless* by chance.—

A shameless *woman* is the worst of *men*.—

Because she's *right*, she's ever in the *wrong*.—

With wit, or the association of distant ideas by some unexpected resemblance, he abounds. Almost every page affords instances of his inventive powers in this respect; some, truly beautiful; others, odd and quaint. I shall produce one as a specimen, which you may classify as your judgment shall direct:

Like cats in air-pumps, to subsist we strive,
On joys too thin to keep the soul alive.

There is little of the majestic or dignified in Young's satires; not that he was incapable of sublimity, but because the view he took of men and manners generally excluded it. Yet his account in the seventh satire of the final cause of that principle, the love of fame, is introduced by some very noble lines, which Pope could scarcely have surpassed:

Shot from above, by heaven's indulgence, came
This generous ardour, this unconquer'd flame,
To warm, to raise, to deify mankind,
Still burning brightest in the noblest mind.
By large-soul'd men, for thrist of fame renown'd,
Wise *laws* were fram'd, and sacred *arts* were found:
Desire of praise first broke the *patriot's* rest,
And made a bulwark of the *warrior's* breast.

The purpose of the passage, indeed, is to offer incense at the shrine

of royalty; for Young bestowed adulation as largely as censure, and always with a view to his interest; in which he is disadvantageously distinguished from Pope. Two meaner lines will not easily be found than the following in his praise of queen Caroline:

Her favour is diffused to that degree,
Excess of goodness! it has beam'd *on me.*

These are at the close of his *second* satire on women; for his politeness did not prevent him from employing the lash with even peculiar force on the tender sex. I think, however, you will feel yourself little hurt by these attacks; for his ridicule consists in presenting a series of caricatures, drawn rather from fancy than observation; and he does not treat the whole sex with that contempt which is perpetually breaking out in the writings of Pope and Swift.

Before you, for the present, lay down this author, I will desire you to peruse a piece of descriptive poetry, in which he has shown himself master of a very different style. This is his "Paraphrase on Part of the Book of Job," a composition in its original the most sublime of those sacred writings which it accompanies, though, as in all other Hebrew poetry, its grandeur is allied to obscurity. Young has made little addition to the primitive imagery, but has rendered it more clear and precise, while it contains all its force and splendour. The descriptions are not always accurate, and the language sometimes borders upon extravagance; but his object was poetical effect, and this he has produced in an uncommon degree. Thus, after his highly wrought picture of the lion in his nightly ravages, he fixes and and concentrates the impression of terror, by the figure of the flying shepherd, who

——shudders at the talon in the dust.

This is a stroke of real genius!

PORTRAIT OF ERSKINE.

By Mr. Austin.

ERSKINE, Gibbs, and Garrow, are the three most powerful speakers in the courts of law.

The person of Erskine is slender; his height not exceeding the common size; his complexion sallow; his hair dark; his face oval, and a little emaciated; the lower part of his forehead prominent, yet gradually retreating; his eyebrows full, a little perplexed, seated near his eyes, which are hazel, open and conciliatory; his nose narrow between the eyes, yet perfectly congenial, neither too large nor too small; his mouth gently closed, seeming ready to await the dictates of his tongue, yet not large enough to give his eloquence its just tone; his lips thin, meeting in union, and, when irritated, rather inclining to retreat than project; his chin gently retreating, which, in conjunction with his forehead, bespeaks the man firm, yet modest; positive, yet ingenuous.

His countenance, when in a state of repose, is prepossessing; but, when he speaks, his gestures are rhetoric; his looks, persuasion; his voice, eloquence: in the glow of animation, commanding; but in the moment of passion, when self-convinced, he is pure intelligence: disdaining every by-road to conviction, he strips the cause of all its surrounding circumstances, places it on its own position; true to nature, paints it visibly to the eye, and buries in oblivion every interfering particular. Both judge and jury are prostrate in chains. It is the contention of principle, no matter whose, or what the interest, if heaven were concerned, it is still the contention of principle. Of all causes which could arise, the present seems to involve the deepest consequences: there is no distinction now between the great and the little, every thing but the point in question is forgotten; Erskine and his cause are sovereign over all. Now flows the fountain of justice,

now are explored the recesses of iniquity, now are the deep foundations of fraud broken up. His eloquence becomes a torrent which sweeps away every mound which art or subterfuge had raised: no longer has the law a single hard feature; no perplexities, no uncertainties, no idle evasions! Saturnian Jove descends, with his equal scales; Cunning retires in shame; Oppression lets go its victim; and Innocence is seated on the throne of Equity. At length, Erskine himself, by degrees, is forgotten, and forgets himself; he rises to an effort not his own, and sinks under superior feelings, while the judge and jury, convinced even to enthusiasm, are impatient to withhold the verdict.

Erskine will suffer nothing on being examined as a man: his profession has not defaced his original features of greatness. When engaged in a weak or unjust cause, he never sacrifices his hardihood of honour to the views of his client. He says all that ought to be said; yet never commits his own dignity by urging a corrupt principle. You see nothing of the attorney, Erskine is a counsellor: you see no partizan of petty advantages, Erskine is a gentleman.

He is serious, or witty, at pleasure, and, when the occasion offers, and he is disposed to descend, he can, like Roscius, turn off a case in pantomime. Among the thousand actions which are presented him, some appear, on trial, to have originated in mirth, and others in impudence: this Proteus is ready in a moment to throw off the professional buskin, and tread the sock.

I have followed Erskine to the House of Commons, forming to my mind the attitude of a man, treading empires under his feet, and holding in his hands the destinies of the world. If, in a petty court of law, he could move heaven in behalf of a poor orphan, or an oppressed widow, surely, in presence of the British parliament, when the fate of nations is depending, the front of opposition must cower beneath his frown, or follow in the wake of his triumphant path. But the moment he enters parliament he disappears. He is only one among five hundred. An Arab would never kill Erskine, unless he caught him in his gown, band, and wig*; with these he seems to put off his whole virtue. As a statesman Erskine is nothing. I do not say he is a great man in a little room; but Erskine, addressing twelve men, in a court of law, and in the British parliament, addressing the speaker in behalf of the nation, is not the same man. He commences, indeed, on a broad foundation, but ascends, like a pyramid, and either produces an abortion, or attains to the point, and terminates where he should have begun. In parliament, he discovers nothing of that copious precision, that ascending order, that captivating fluency, that earnest conviction, which, at the bar, stamp him Erskine. In parliament, he labours with a harrow through the impediments of politics; now it catches hold of Pitt, then it interferes with a straggling limb of Hawkesbury, now it tears away the skirts of Addington, presently it is to be lifted over the body of Windham. He concludes, and the impression which he made is already effaced.

PORTRAIT OF GIBBS.

THE person of Gibbs is diminutive, his appearance contemptible; he has not a single strong mark of character, except a sagacious eye. There is nothing engaging in his looks; he rather repels, than attracts; but all his defects are forgotten, the moment he opens his mouth. Gibbs is, doubtless, the greatest lawyer in England. In a common case, he sinks under Erskine and Garrow, but in a cause which involves first principles, where there is no room

* The English lawyers are dressed, when in court, in a black gown, band, and tie wig.

for the trappings of eloquence, where passion is vain, where digression weakens, where embellishment is suspicious, he commands admiration, and pens up Erskine in a corner, and not unfrequently makes him stammer.

In addressing a jury, Gibbs is second; but second only to Erskine Garrow. He neither understands human nature so well, nor can he sift character, nor can he insinuate himself, and take advantage of a fortunate moment. He has no conception of the extremes of virtue and vice; he measures every thing with his compasses, but he is sure of his dimensions. You make it merely a case of conscience to agree with him, yet he never lets you go, until he has secured you, though he never thanks you for a verdict, well knowing you would not have given it, had he not compelled you. Sometimes, though rarely, he attains to eloquence not inferior to Erskine's, and then he is sure of his cause, for what can resist the arguments of Gibbs, backed with the eloquence of Erskine? Yet his eloquence is not an expansive eloquence, because it is not the eloquence of the heart, but that of the head. He cannot look all the jury in the face at the same moment; he does not regard the jury as one man, he feels as though he has twelve persons to convince: different from Erskine, who addresses the whole twelve, and persuades each individual that he is solicitous to convince him in particular. With Gibbs, human nature varies in different men; Erskine finds the tie of connection, which governs the whole. While the one is labouring his point, the other has already touched you with his wand. Gibbs, like his countrymen, effects all that he does effect, by main force. Erskine and Garrow are dancing on the top of the fortification, while Gibbs is mining the foundation; and before Gibbs enters the city, it is already sacked. I speak of these great men addressing a jury: in addressing the judges, before whom nothing but law and argument can avail, or will be heard, before whom the most eloquent might as well speak in the dark, Gibbs rises pre-eminent. He assumes nothing, yet you perceive the very deportment of his body bespeaks a man sure of himself, who has sounded his position, and who stands ready to grasp the whole common law of England. When Gibbs shows himself before the judges, Garrow is out of court, or sits with his callimanco bag tied up, and Erskine, his antagonist, is as anxious and as busy as a general, fearful of a surprise.

The deeper the case, the more perplexed, the more original, and involved in law learning, the more firm his position; he is secure in himself, and less cautious of his competitor. He rises with a solemnity and moderation, which impress every one. His voice is strong, slow, and well articulated; perfectly suited to a man, who, in pursuit of the light of reason, is willing that every word should be judged by the rules of precision. Without the appearance of arrangement, he has all the elegance of method; luminous, you see his path through the wilderness of the law, while in his rear follows a stream of connexion; thus attaining to all the interest of historical order, he gradually convinces until he challenges all he demanded.

His gestures are moderate, his countenance is never impassioned; he is never, like Erskine, agitated; he uses but one arm, and that never in a waving line; his person is scarcely big enough to wield the weight of his mind. He admits little illustration, but depends on his last argument to illustrate the former. He never condescends to be witty, despises embellishment, would trample on all the flowers of May, discovers no learning foreign to the case, and indulges in no sally, except a strong and overwhelming irony, correspondent with the strength of his reasoning. In these moments, Erskine's self retires before him, like the shadow, which

you have sometimes seen in a cloudy day, retreating over the hills, before the invading presence of the sun. But Erskine in his turn, rallies himself, and easily persuades all, that except in that particular case, he is superior to Gibbs, and though vanquished, he is prepared for another combat.

The judges, as judges, have doubtless most reverence for Gibbs; it is evident they look up to him with veneration, and are disposed to suspect their own, rather than his judgment. Yet this man, a plebeian, is candidate for nothing; while Erskine, the son of an earl, is candidate for the lord high chancellorship. I say not this in direspect to Erskine, who honours England more than England can ever honour him.

PORTRAIT OF GARROW.

GARROW is not a lawyer, nor is he, in the extensive sense of the word, an orator; yet not less extraordinary than Erskine or Gibbs.

His person is respectable, rather raw-boned; his face a square flat; his complexion a dry, brown red; his forehead high, which appears higher through a total defect of eyebrows; his chin is triangular, and a little prominent.

Garrow, the son of a country clergyman, was considered, in his childhood, a dead weight on society. Until the age of thirteen, he was a cow-boy; and, at that age, his intellects promised nothing. His father sent him, about that period at a venture, to London. What occupation he followed I know not; but he found his way, at length, to the nightly debating societies, at which he soon discovered a wonderful readiness in reply, and a copious flow of original matter, which his want of education rendered all his own.

He entered on the study of the law, I suspect, under unfavourable circumstances, for he commenced at the Old Bailey. Hence, if human nature wore but one aspect, Garrow would naturally paint it black. Most men, in the profession of law, if they have ability, attain eminence by degrees. A lawyer never appears full grown at once, like an air balloon, or a new created lord. He is obliged to arrive at certainty through the labyrinths of uncertainty. Garrow, though he became famous, soon as he showed himself, did not depend on his acquisitions for celebrity.

As counsellor for felons at the Old Bailey, he was necessarily a spectator of human depravity, from its first moment of lax principle to the last degree of abandoned practice. The criminal code of law, in this country, is so disproportioned, so barbarous, so unnatural, that Garrow might frequently deem it a matter of principle to save the guilty. Hence, the more desperate the situation of the felon, the more severely would he tax his ingenuity.

Garrow, while at the Old Bailey, was an impediment in the way of justice. The only remedy was to make him a king's counsellor. This placed him, at once, beside Erskine, Gibbs, Dallas, and Park, in the king's bench. The sagacity which distinguished him, in criminal cases, followed him to the more ample field of litigation. There, amidst the intricacies of self-interest, fraud, and cunning, he divests the cause of every assumed colour, or, as readily, extricates suffering innocence from the fangs of the oppressor. His wonderful knowledge of human nature is only equalled by his facility of entering into the feelings, views, and conduct of mankind, under all circumstances. He is a perfect master of the doctrine of the probabilities of human conduct, while the variety of causes which Guildhall affords, gives him an extensive view, broad as the relations of society. He is a metaphysician, and, what is more, knows how to reduce his metaphysics to common sense, and to the purposes of common life. No casuist could enter more sagaciously into the theory of the *will*, *motive*, *degree of necessity*,

and so palpably distinguish between the *necessary*, the *indifferent*, and the *perverse* of human action. But his chief excellence consists in impressing on the jury a full and distinct apprehension of the merits of the case. It is the fault of some great lawyers to enter too deeply into their causes: they injure them by attempting, before the jury, to give them a false importance. Garrow, on the contrary, comprehends with a glance, just how much the case will bear, and to what length he may presume on the jury. Then, after a clear and precise opening of the cause, in which is contained the real outlines, which he knows his evidence will support, he rises in a moment to the middle style of eloquence, and with a fluency surpassing Erskine's, turns his back on the judge, and worms himself into the common sense of the jury, with whom he never hazards a dubious point, by urging it beyond the fair bounds of plausibility. Here he takes his stand: by resting his case on their own competency, he pays deference, and engages their self-love, while, without any considerable effort on their part, they follow him at their ease. Never, like Gibbs and Erskine, does he address himself partly to the judge, and partly to the jury; but he seems to leap over the bar, forgetful of all the solemnities of his profession, into the midst of the jury, his fellows; himself at their head, a sagacious pointer, they are ready to follow from White Chapel to Hyde Park.

Nothing great, no sublime apostrophes, no appeal to the passions, no distracting digressions, no learning, not even law learning, trouble the pure stream of his eloquence. With the rapidity of lightning he touches on all the important points, throwing out with the one hand and establishing with the other, whatever is immaterial or substantial; thus he lays before the jury the marrow of the cause, and, lest he should obscure it with circumlocution, when he has said all that the jury can bear, Garrow appears to be exhausted.

He attaches more surely than Erskine himself. The latter sometimes strains the feelings too high: amidst a world of matter, he is in danger of losing sight of the question. Garrow never yet wantoned to the prejudice of his client. He never, like the eagle, ascends to the sun, but he never forgets his pursuit to chase butterflies. Though his style of speaking and tone of voice are always the same, yet his penetration is so subtle, and his conclusions so natural, that he succeeds in convincing the jury he is only elucidating their own sentiments. Thus, whatever he gains, instantly becomes a part of the verdict; no matter, whether right or wrong, that is the judge's, not his concern.

REMARKABLE OCCURRENCES.

IN the region of the sea-coast, from Maine to Virginia, the season appears to have been not only much more severe than winters past, but proportionably colder, and more abounding in snow, than in the interior parts of the country. The interior, truly, is covered with a good depth of snow, and the weather has been severer than common. But on and towards the sea coast, southward and eastward, the snow appears in many places deeper than it is here, and uniformly of greater depth than it has been known to be there for many years: the cold is proportionable. Stages have been impeded in every direction; the navigable streams and harbours frozen, commerce on the coast at a stand; no employment for the poor; fuel extremely scarce and dear, with

most of the other necessaries of life; the poor have suffered beyond all description, to whom, we are happy to learn, the hand of charity has been extended, in all the populous sea-port towns, with an unexampled liberality.

A remark has been often made, that the climate in the United States becomes more temperate as we recede from the sea-shore, westward. The difference of temperature, in the same parallels of latitude, has been reckoned equal to ten degrees, in winter, between the sea and the Ohio and Mississippi. The justness of this remark appears to be confirmed the present season. While the people near the sea shore are suffering extremely from frost and snow, while they compare the present winter to that of 1780, we hear little complaint from the western country. While in New Jersey the snow is stated from two and a half to three feet in depth, we have accounts of heavy rains and destructive freshets about the head of the Ohio, and a ship of 300 tons was launched at Pittsburgh, on the 12th of January.

Walpole Observatory.

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Abstract of the weather in Buckingham township, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, from the 1st of July, to the 31st of December, 1804.

Fair days	105
Cloudy	39
Rain	22
Snow	10
Showery	6
	183

—

Exports from the port of Philadelphia, from the 1st of October to the 31st of December, both inclusive; taken from the outward entries in the custom-house.

37,209 barrels flour
3,332 half do.
822 barrels rye flour
2,687 hhds. Indian corn meal
5,799 barrels do. do.

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A statement of the expenditures of the president, managers, and company of the Frankford and Bristol turnpike road, on making two sections, of five miles each, of the said road; with an account of the amount of the neat toll received, on the first section, from the 17th of December, 1803, to the 7th of November, 1804.

For levelling and arranging the road and aqueducts	$ 9,949 28
Paid contractors for stoning ditto, salaries to secretary and superintendant, until the first section was completed	44,571 14
There has been expended on the second section, the levelling hills, &c. building two bridges, making aqueducts, and arranging the road	16,115 45
Paid contractors for stoning ditto, and half salaries of secretary and superintendant	34,662 00
Making the whole amount expended on the road	$ 105,297 88

They have received neat toll, on the first section, from the 17th of December, 1803, to the 7th of November, 1804, four thousand dollars.

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Nashville, Ten., Dec. 9, 1804.

A man lately applied to a gentleman in the neighbourhood of this place, and proposed to trade him some notes, stating, at the same time, that *he believed them counterfeit.* The gentleman accordingly purchased some of them, with an intention of bringing him to punishment, and had him immediately af-

terwards apprehended; but the jury acquitted him, on the ground that he did not, according to the literal words of the law, say that they were good. He had in his possession upwards of five thousand dollars in notes of the different branches of the bank of the United States, all of which he acknowledges to be counterfeit, but will not tell where he got them, or who made them. Other indictments have been found against him, which will be tried at the next district court.

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About two months since an aged gentleman, by the name of Samuel M'Hatton, an inhabitant of the state of Kentucky, was on his return from the Natchez, where he had disposed of a cargo of produce, and received a considerable sum of money. Near the verge of the wilderness he overtook a countryman of the name of M'Kune, a young man, not more than twenty years of age, who was also endeavouring to return to Kentucky, but was destitute of a horse or money, and withal so sick as to be utterly unable to travel. Mr. M'Hatton took compassion on him, furnished him with necessaries, and waited until he was able to accompany him through the wilderness; but the first or second night after their departure, M'Kune murdered him with a club, robbed him of his money, clothes, and horse, and pushed on as fast as the small degree of strength he had acquired would permit him; but the body being discovered by some travellers, he was pursued, apprehended, and committed to the jail in this place. A bill was found against him, upon very clear testimony, by the grand jury of the federal court; but a few days before his trial was to have come on, he died a victim to the same disorder from which he had been partially relieved by his murdered benefactor. On his death bed he confessed the fact, but did not appear to be sensible of the enormity of his crime.

The directors of the New York institution for the inoculation of the kine pock, respectfully represent to the contributors particularly, and the citizens in general, that since the establishment of the institution, in January, 1802, to the present time, its twofold objects have been regularly attended to, the infection has been extensively disseminated, and seven hundred and sixty poor persons have been gratuitously inoculated, viz.

First year	120
Second ditto	221
Third ditto	419
Total	760

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Bardstown, Kentucky, Jan. 11.

We are informed, that three men were found froze to death, on Thursday last, in this neighbourhood.—From the extreme severity of the weather, it is feared that more have suffered the same fate.

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Baltimore, Jan. 14.

Yesterday, about four o'clock, P. M., a fire broke out in a frame building, in the tenure of Mr. Henry Browne, situated back of No. 164, Market-street, and in the rear of, and nearly adjoining, the post-office.

To a slight fall of rain, just before the alarm was given, and to the serenity of the atmosphere, aided by the vigilance of our citizens, we may fairly attribute the preservation of the surrounding property, which, we are happy to say, sustained no damage.

We learn, that the building consumed contained a small quantity of tobacco, and machinery for grinding snuff; but it appears no work had been done in it for some days: and this, the time of day it originated, and other circumstances, loudly declare, that the fire was communicated by some daring incendiary.

Danbury, Connect., Jan. 16.

In this part of the country, the winter, thus far, has been unusually severe. On Friday, the 4th inst., at sun-rise, the mercury, in a thermometer, exposed to atmospheric air, stood at 15 degrees below 0; and on Saturday, the 12th inst., at the same hour, 19 degrees below 0: an intenseness of cold very seldom experienced in these latitudes.

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New London, Jan. 18.

A severe thunder storm was experienced here this day. The lightning was vivid, the thunder heavy, and the rain fell in torrents. At the same time, every object presented the dazzling glare of ice.

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Charleston, S. C., Jan. 21.

The post-rider from the northward arrived on Saturday evening, without the mail, from the northward of Raleigh.

The following communication, from the post-master at Raleigh, North Carolina, dated the 13th inst., was received at the post-office in this city, by Saturday evening's mail:

"No northern mail arrived, owing to the bridges being carried away by the high water. We learn from a person arrived this day from Warrenton, North Carolina, that the mail could not get across Roanoke; and that all the bridges on the stage road from that river to Raleigh are swept away. Our informant crossed the Neuse by means of a canoe, and came here on foot."

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COURT OF SESSIONS.

On Friday last, Richard Dennis, the younger, was brought to the bar, and put on his trial for the wilful murder of James Shaw, late merchant of this city, in the month of August last. The trial occupied the whole of that day, and continued to a late hour in the evening, when, on account of the fatigue of mind of the court, the jury, and the advocates concerned, it was thought necessary to adjourn to the next day. The court again proceeded with the trial on Saturday, and it was not until late on the evening of that day that the judge delivered his charge to the jury, who, after being out for a considerable time, returned with the following verdict:

"We find Richard Dennis, the younger, guilty, but recommend him to mercy."

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New York, January 23.

John Craig, Adolphus Harris, and John Nesbitt, three apprentice lads of Mr. Hugh M'Intire, stone-cutter, during the absence of their master, went on the ice in the North River, at the bottom of Warren-street, with an intention of crossing to the Jersey shore: but, painful to relate, they have not since been heard of!

—

January 24. The exertions of the persons officially employed in procuring the means of relief for the poor of our city, as well as those of benevolent private individuals, have been attended with happy success. The hand of charity has been opened in a manner that reflects signal credit on the citizens, many of whom have manifested a feeling and liberality that must endear them to the poor. Zealous to obtain and forward to acknowledge the contributions of the humane and generous, the mayor and city-inspector have made honourable mention of several individuals, who have advanced largely in behalf of their suffering brethren. Some who do good by stealth, and would blush to find it fame, have sent very handsome donations, under assumed signatures.

A flour merchant yesterday sent a donation to the Alms-house of no less than twenty-one barrels of superfine flour, worth upwards of two hundred and forty dollars. This do-

nation, large as it was, was accompanied with an intimation, that when it was expended, more was ready.

The name of this gentleman is John Townsend.

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January 25.

Twenty thousand dollars was appropriated, by law of the United States, to complete the north wing of the capitol, and other public buildings, at Washington.

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New York, Jan. 26.

The late mild weather and rain has reduced the price of wood, and rendered our port so free of ice, that when the wind permits, there will be no difficulty in vessels coming in or going out.

As an elderly gentleman was walking along Pearl-street this morning, the snow from the roof of an adjacent house suddenly came off, knocked him down, and so completely buried him up, that they were obliged to dig him out. No limbs, however, were broken, nor any material injury done.

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January 27. Yesterday morning, a ferry boat, commanded by Richard Cole, left Powles hook, early in the morning, for Whitehall. The tide was changing, the wind died away, and was succeeded by so thick a fog, that during the whole day, no object, at a hundred yards distance, could be perceived. It is therefore probable, that the boat has been drifting with the tide ever since, as Mr. Cole had neither compass nor oars. The boat was loaded with hoop poles, and had on board a number of passengers. She could receive no damage from the ice, as what is left is very soft.

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A child of Mr. Robert Hewitt, pilot, aged about three years, being left alone, at his house, No. 12, Cliff-street, New York, took fire in its clothes, by playing with a lighted candle, and was so much burned, that it died shortly after.

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A man of the name of James Boner, of New York, fell into the dock, near the Old slip, and was drowned. He bore the character of an industrious man, and has left a wife and seven children.

—

A recent instance of swindling has occurred in New York, which, both for the purpose of exposing a scoundrel, and putting the public on their guard against him, ought not to pass unnoticed. A person, calling himself J. Barclay Croker, and who says that he comes from a house in London, has lately ushered himself into notice, as a goldsmith, jeweller, &c., and has so far imposed on the public, as to possess himself of many valuable articles, in the line of his pretended profession. Suspecting, as it seems, that he could not continue his nefarious practices, without discovery, he clandestinely left his lodgings on Sunday last, and has not since been heard of. Some circumstances lead to conjecture, that he has gone to Norfolk or Richmond.

—

Mr. William Payne, late first mate of the ship Hibernia, which was cast away upon Plymouth beach, has arrived in Boston. He informs, that the ship struck about four o'clock, P. M., when the sea made a fair breach over her. All the people on board, eleven in number, were obliged to climb the shrouds, to prevent being washed over board; that in the struggle he lost his shoes and mittins; that he continued on the shrouds until the people perished and fell off, one after another, until he supposed they were all dead. Finding himself unable to continue there any longer, he went down upon the main deck, which is the last thing which he can recollect, while on board the ship.

About the time the ship went on shore, the people in Plymouth discovered her, and a number of the inhabitants repaired to the beach, built a large fire, and erected a tent, in order to save the lives of any who might get on shore. The sea running so high, they found it impossible to board the ship, until about two o'clock in the morning. Thinking the tide a little more favourable, a Mr. Leonard took an end of a rope, lashed it around him, and attempted to swim on board the ship, it being about twelve rods, leaving the other end on shore, which he accomplished. Finding Mr. Payne and the boy alive, he lashed the rope around them both, threw them over board, calling upon the people on the beach, who drew them on shore.

The account of the manner of his getting on shore was related to him by the inhabitants; he had no knowledge of it at the time, neither had he any sense for a number of hours after. He observes, that he had every attention paid to him by the people at Plymouth, for which he feels himself under the greatest obligation. His feet and hands are very much frozen, which will probably prevent him doing any business until warm weather. He has lost all his clothes and his adventure, and has a wife and one child.

—

January 27.

The senate of Pennsylvania decided on the article of impeachment against the judges of the supreme court. Thirteen of the members voted for condemning, and eleven for acquitting, them. They were therefore acquitted, as no person can be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

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Mr. Perkins has obtained leave to introduce into the legislature of Delaware, a bill for the gradual abolition of slavery within that state, which provides, that all children born after the passing of the act shall be free, but to remain the servant of the owner of the mother until twenty-one years of age.

It provides also for the registering, by the recorder of each county, of all such children, and for all slaves now in the state, and declares, that all not registered within six months, shall be deemed free.

It also provides against the separation of a husband and wife, or child under four years of age, from a parent. It has passed the committee of the whole house, and its friends hope its final passage.

—

Dr. Trumbull, in his history of Connecticut, mentions, from Winthorp's journal, that, in the year 1637, the snow lay from the 4th of November until the 23d of March; that it was sometimes three or four feet deep; that once, in the winter, it snowed, for two hours together, flakes as big as an English shilling.

The depth of the snow is now, or lately has been as great or greater; but it is hoped that it will not be equal to that in duration.

—

January 29.

The academy in Hallowell, district of Maine, was consumed by fire, together with the apparatus belonging to the same, and the books of about sixty students. This valuable institution has been in operation about nine years, during which time about nine hundred students have there received the benefits of an academic education. It was the first organized institution of the kind in the district of Maine; and, at the present time, only one more is in operation eastward of Portland.

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Newark, N. J., January 29.

On the morning of Thursday last, about half after one o'clock, a fire was discovered in the house of major Samuel Hays, of this town; and notwithstanding the alacrity of our

citizens in turning out, and their exertions at the fire, the house, together with the principal part of the contents, were consumed. And had not a person, who accidentally passed by, alarmed the family, it is altogether probable a part, if not all of them, would have perished in the flames.

In this providential escape, they had to fly with no other apparel than what they went to rest in; and but a few escaped without receiving some personal injury by the fire.

The goods lost in the house, at a moderate calculation, is estimated at fifteen hundred dollars. The fire originated in the cellar.

The want of fire-buckets was manifestly evident on this occasion. Every body was proceeding to the fire, but nobody had buckets to hand water for its extinguishment. We believe twenty could not have been counted. The consequence was, the ludicrous sight of men snow-balling a house, to put out the fire!

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The winter thus far has been extremely severe. We have had more snow than common; and the cold weather is remarkably tedious and steady. The snow has been falling, without intermission, for nearly forty-eight hours; and on Monday, at seven o'clock, P. M., it still continued falling. It is well on to thirty inches deep, on an average.

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January 30.

Six hundred dollars, the profit of one night's exhibition at the new theatre, Philadelphia, with fifty dollars from Mr. Cooper, was presented to the committee of the relief of the poor.

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Williamsburg, Feb. 3.

On Saturday last, the proprietor of the mail stage from Williamsburg to Richmond, inconsiderately suffered an importunate passenger to enter a barrel of flour for conveyance. The carriage had not gone three miles, when the wheels of one side ascended a hillock, over which it would have passed in perfect safety, had not the flour fallen to its lower side, which immediately upset the carriage. The writer of this is sorry to state, that the justly celebrated Dr. Beynham, of Carolina, one of the passengers (all of whom received a very distressing shock), suffered a dislocation of the right shoulder joint, which has hitherto proved irreducible.

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Litchfield, Con., Feb. 6.

On Tuesday of last week, during the violent snow storm, William Hitchcock, aged 29, perished in this place. In company with a number of others, he had been breaking a path from a south-east neighbourhood to the meeting-house. For some reason, he was a few minutes after the rest in returning. Just before sun-down he was met on his way homeward; and about a hundred rods further on he was found, before dark, with his face downward, and nearly lifeless. After he was carried to the next house, he gasped twice and expired. His relations, it is supposed, live in Greenfield, Massachusetts.

Three other persons, one a woman, belonging to Colebrook, the other two men, one an inhabitant of Canaan, and the other a stranger, perished in the storm in which Mr. Hitchcock was a sufferer. Five persons in this county lost their lives in the violent storm of the 22d ult.

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By letters received in this city from the Mediterranean we learn, that a duel took place between Mr. Dehart, of New Jersey, and Mr. Nicholson, of Maryland, both officers in the American squadron. The third fire proved fatal to Mr. Nicholson. He was shot through the head, and died instantly.

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February 7.

From Trenton we learn, that the

mild weather and rain raised the Delaware so much, that a great number of people, who lived on the low land contiguous to the river, were obliged precipitately to leave their houses, in such numbers, that sixty or seventy men, women, and children were collected about a fire, on a hill above Trenton, without shelter. The water was at one time twelve or fifteen feet above the common level, and had carried away a mill and several houses; it is further said, that the ice was entirely broke up, above the falls; that boats, from fifty or sixty miles up the river, had come down with produce, and were waiting for the breaking up of the ice below Trenton, to bring the same to this city.

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Norfolk, Vir., Feb. 9.

The skipper of a craft, a white man, named Amos, was murdered, on Wednesday night, in Calvert's alley, by three negro fellows. From what has transpired we learn, that Amos was drinking in a tippling shop, in that nefarious alley, kept by a negro woman, when the three fellows came in, and called for liquor; that he abused them for daring to call for liquor in a white man's presence. The negroes retorted, by saying, "their money was as good as his, and if he would come out of the house they would let him know it." Upon which he went out, and in a few minutes after was found dead, having received a violent contusion in the head. The murderers have since been committed to prison.

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On the 10th instant, Stephen Arnold, of the town of Burlington, county of Otsego, and state of New York, returned home from a school he was teaching in the neighbourhood, and enquired of a little orphan girl, of six years of age, who lived with him, whether she would spell and pronounce *gig* aright; she immediately replied "yes, sir;" but being terrified by the severity of his manner, or not having acquired the command of articulation, or possibly, but not probably, from a perverse humour, she pronounced it *jig*. He then went out and collected a number of green rods or switches, about three feet in length, with which he returned, and threw them down by the fire, declaring that he would whip her until she pronounced the word aright. His wife observed that the sticks were too big; he said he would fix them, and placed them in the embers, and twisted them so as to render them supple. He then took six or seven of them, and the affrighted child, out of the house, into the cold evening air, and turning her clothes over her head, to prevent her screams being heard, and closing them in his left hand, which he rested on the top of a stake or post, held the child up in that manner, with her body entirely naked, and whipt her for some time with great severity; when being himself cold, he took her into the house, and asked her if she would pronounce the word right; she, as before, replied in a humble and obedient manner, "yes, sir," but could not, or would not, pronounce the *g* hard, but still said *jig*. He then took her to the same place, and repeated the barbarous scourging in the same manner, at seven intervals, bringing her into the house between each, and repeating the same question, and receiving the same answer as before. The sixth time he came in, after warming himself, he told her she must go out again, upon which the child, in a piteous and entreating tone, said, "*Do, uncle, let me warm my feet, they are almost froze.*"—He quickly replied, in an enraged manner, *I'll warm your feet for you;* and seizing her, repaired again to the bloody post, where he, in the most savage manner, exceeded his former tortures. The miserable child languished nearly four days, and expired. The stubs or remains

of several of the sticks were found broken or shivered off to about a foot in length.

The whole of the horrid transaction occupied about an hour and a half of time, during which time neither pity nor compunction was discernible in his eyes, features, words, or actions; but he declared *that he had as lieve whip her to death as not.* The savage fury of this tyger in human shape is declared, by the physicians and members of the coroner's inquest, to be indescribable. The whole of her back had the appearance of a mass of bruised and lacerated raw flesh; her thighs and legs were deeply cut in many places; exhibiting a sight of horror that would chill the blood of the most insensible of the human race. The bereaved and distressed mother has been at times delirious. The monster, who perpetrated this horrible act, made his escape a few hours before death had delivered the victim of his barbarity from further torture. He has a wife, but no children, is about thirty-four years of age, sandy hair, a little bald, speaks through his nose, has something of a down look, shows his upper teeth when speaking, is very abstemious as to strong drink, has a father in Rhode Island.

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Boston, Feb. 16.

Yesterday morning, about three o'clock, our citizens were alarmed by the cry of fire, which proved to be in Cambridge village, near the bridge causeway. It broke out in a small building occupied for the storage of lime. The water having made its way into the lime barrels, immediately communicated fire to the building; and the wind being very strong at west, the adjacent buildings to leeward caught and consumed so suddenly, that nothing of value could be saved. Two stores and a large barn were burnt, with their contents of provisions, liquors, lime, &c., amounting, by estimation, to between twelve and fifteen thousand dollars. Messrs. Makepeace and co., merchants, and Mr. Mason, tavern-keeper, are the principal sufferers.

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A new house, in Belknap-street, very narrowly escaped conflagration, yesterday morning, from the water in the cellar taking a hogshead of unslacked lime.

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As the ship Augusta was proceeding through the narrows, on her voyage to Belfast, the people were called aft on duty, when one of the men, with great deliberation, pulled off his hat, and, taking farewel of his comrades, leaped over the stern of the vessel, and although the ship was immediately hove to, the boat hoisted overboard, and every means tried to save the infatuated man, he sunk to the bottom. No cause can be assigned for the rash act.

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February 17.

Mr. Henry Goodall, of Chatham, an aged man, under the care of that town, being a little insane, was chained to the floor of the house in which he was kept, on the night of the 5th inst., and, in that situation, froze to death!

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The New-York mail, due at Fredericksburg, Virginia, on the 18th of February, was lost in Potowmac creek, together with the stage and two horses, owing to an unusual freshet in the creek.

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February 20.

On the evening of the cold Friday, so fresh in the memory of every one, a Mr. John Johnson, who commanded a sloop, belonging to Norwalk, was beating up to the harbour of that place, when he dropped his mitten overboard. The boat lying along side of his sloop, he jumped into it to recover his mitten,

but the boat got loose from the sloop, and Mr. Johnson not having any oar to direct it, it drifted to a considerable distance, near White's Island, though not near enough to enable him to get on shore. By this time the tide had fallen, and the sloop aground; so that his people could afford him no assistance. Thus, beaten about by the ice, which floated down with the tide, he lay till morning, when he was taken off, and carried to his house in Norwalk. His limbs and body were so much frozen that the flesh dropped from his bones. He lived nearly three weeks, in the greatest agony, when he expired, and left a wife and several children to lament his loss.

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Last week, in Suffield, a boy, about twelve years old, living with an indigent family, who were ill provided with beds, solicited permission, the night being extremely cold, to sleep by the fire on the ground floor. This, however, was refused him by the master of the house, who, on the boy's repeating the request, with his horse-whip drove him into a cold garret, where his only covering was a few rags; and, in that situation, left him to spend the night. The cries of the boy, however, soon reached his ear; he returned to the garret, and there beat and mangled him, till all complaints were effectually silenced. The next morning the boy was found apparently lifeless; all the lower part of his body frozen; an unequalled object of misery! There is no doubt that the boy, before this, is dead.

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Baltimore, Feb. 20.

A stable belonging to Mr. James Brown, potter, on the rear of his lot in Granby-street, took fire about seven o'clock this morning; but from its timely discovery, and the exertions of a few neighbours, we are happy to say, the fire was extinguished without doing any further mischief, than destroying the small house in which it commenced, and a small quantity of provender. The fire is supposed to have originated from a lighted pipe which the hostler was in the habit of taking with him into the stable. What is singular and fortunate, is that the fire should have been subdued without any alarm whatever having extended to the distance of more than two or three squares, though the stable was in contact with a large pile of very inflammable pine wood, for the use of the pottery.

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There are now living in Hilltown Township, Bucks county, two aged women, who have surviving posterity down to the fourth generation; One of whom can with propriety say, Arise daughter, and go to your daughter, for your daughter's daughter has daughters. The genealogy of the other is intermixt with sons.

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Mr. Edward Moore, of Plumstead township, went into the woods to chop; his family, fearing some accident had befallen him, went to the place where the sound of his axe was last heard. Near the stump of a tree his lifeless body was found, his scull fractured. The limb of a falling tree, is supposed to have struck him on the head, and to have killed him instantly. He has left a widow and orphans, to lament their loss in his untimely death.

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Washington, Feb. 20.

In the afternoon of Monday last, between three and four o'clock, the inhabitants of this town were exceedingly alarmed by the cry of fire. One of the houses, adjoining the Union Tavern, and occupied by Mr. M'Laughlin for the accomodation of part of his numerous boarders, was discovered to be enveloped

in smoke, and in a short time the flames burst through the roof and windows, threatening destruction to the whole square. Happily however, through the timely, vigorous, and well directed exertions of the citizens, who appeared to vie with each other in rendering every assistance to their unfortunate and suffering fellow citizen, the fire was entirely extinguished; but not before part of the two buildings between the Union and Mr. Rigg's brick house had been consumed and pulled down. The damage sustained cannot, in our opinion, be overrated at three thousand dollars. The terror and dismay occasioned by this distressing event, can be more easily imagined than described. We feel pleasure in recording the meritorious services of our fellow citizens from the city with a promptitude and alacrity that calls for our highest admiration and sincerest praise.

We regret too that several of the members of congress, and their ladies, were driven from their comfortable habitations. The loss sustained by them we expect was considerable, for the confusion and hurry in removing was very great.

We understand that the celebration of the anniversary of our illustrious Washington, is frustrated by this unexpected event, almost every article of luxury and elegance, prepared for the occasion, having been destroyed.

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Amount of fire-wood, inspected in New York, during the month of November, 1804.

	Cartmen's Loads.
Hickory	6,569
Oak	18,227
Pine	1,503
Total	26,299

Equal to 8,766 cords strict measure.

	Hiccory.	*Oak.*	*Pine.*
Highest price per load	$ 3 34	2 26	1 75
Lowest	2 75	1 75	1 31
Average	3 6	2	1 53
Aggregate value	$ 62,612 56		

MARRIAGES.

December 12, 1804. AT New York, Captain Edward Daniel to Miss Ann P. Beekman, daughter of the late Gerard J. Beekman.

January 1, 1805. At Rochester, Massachusetts, Mr. Samuel Merry, late postmaster at Wilkesbarre, aged 83, to the widow Dorothy Churchill, of Rochester, aged 77. Fifty of their male descendants, and thirty-three females, were present at the ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. Joseph Clark, a nephew of the bride.

6. In the island of Curracoa, Captain Cornelius G. Evertsz, of the Batavian navy, to Miss Sophia P. Eksteen, late of the Cape of Good Hope, daughter of H. O. Eksteen, Esq.

19. At Philadelphia, Mr. Archibald Maxwell to Miss Sarah Greble, daughter of Mr. Greble, of Southwark.

22. At Baltimore, Mr. Arahel Hussey, merchant, to Miss Sally Keyser, daughter of Mr. Derick Keyser.

26. At Philadelphia, Mr. John C. Steinmetz to Miss Eliza Keel.

27. At Philadelphia, Mr. John Souder to Mrs. Sarah Vanschiver.

February 4. At Philadelphia, Mr. Philip S. Church, of New York, to Miss Anne Matilda Stewart, daughter of the late General Stewart.

7. At Petersburg, Virginia, Mr. Thomas Field, editor of the Petersburg Republican, to Miss Susan Scott, of Dinwiddie county, in the same state.

12. Dr. John Ruan, of Frankford, Pennsylvania, to Miss Rachael M'Ilvaine, daughter of Dr. M'Ilvaine, of Burlington, New Jersey.

14. At Philadelphia, Mr. Jeremiah Warder, jun., merchant, to Miss Ann Aston.

Mr. George M'Laughlin, printer, to Miss Margaret Boyle, both of Philadelphia.

Mr. Hazael Thomas to Miss Tamzin Hoofman, daughter of Jacob Hoofman, of Goshen, Chester county.

Mr. Abraham Cobourn, of Delaware county, to Miss Tacy Worrel, of Thornborough, Chester county.

Mr. Joseph Kirkbride Hillegas to Miss Sarah Cooper, both of Philadelphia.

Mr. Benjamin Smith of Rhode Island, to Miss Sarah Tatnall, of Philadelphia.

Mr. Thomas Shipley, merchant, to Miss Phebe Wagner, daughter of John Wagner, Esq., all of Philadelphia.

Mr. George Hand, jun., merchant, of Philadelphia, to Miss Hannah Chew, daughter of Mr. Aaron Chew, of New Jersey.

Mr. George A. Snyder, jun., merchant, to Miss Margaret Aitken, daughter of the late Mr. Robert Aitken, all of Philadelphia.

Mr. Isaac Wood Norris to Miss Mary Vansise, daughter of Captain Joseph Vansise, all of Philadelphia.

Mr. John Shallcross, jun., merchant, to Miss Sarah Dewees, both of Bustleton.

DEATHS.

November 8, 1804. AT Grand Ecore, on Red River, of a typhus fever, after eight days sickness, John Miller, aged 96 years. This man never had a day's sickness in his life, small-pox, measles, &c., excepted, until the complaint that carried him off. He was born in Germany, and, in 1757, was a soldier in the French army in Canada. Being out with a small party, he was taken prisoner by the English, and soon after left the French service, and enlisted in the British army. He was, in 1759, taken prisoner and scalped by the Indians, and otherwise so wounded, that he was left for dead. He was in the battle at Abraham's Plains in 1759, and in 1760 was at the seige of Havannah, and was one of those who placed and sprung the mines of the Moro castle. In 1763, after the Havannah was restored to Spain, he was removed to Pensacola, and was soon discharged, on account of his advanced age, and came from thence to Nachitoches, where he has lived about forty years. He got his living by day labour, was strong and active, could always perform a good day's work, or walk thirty miles a day. He had had several wives; for one, which he complained being a hard bargain, he said he gave a British drummer twelve dollars, in the Havannah. She came with him to Pensacola, and, when he was discharged, he was obliged to sell her for six dollars. He was remarkably strong made, rather short, and full breast; and, ten days before his death, appeared as likely to live twenty years as any man in the district.

November 11. At Gibraltar, of a comsumption, in the twenty-seventh year of his age, Mr. Edward Bridges, of Philadelphia. The promising talents and studious habits of this amiable young gentleman gave to his country the most flattering assurances of growing usefulness, and brilliant ornament. With a mind of uncommon energy, and unremitted industry, Mr. Bridges was prosecuting his literary studies and practice of the law, when the fatal hand of disease arrested his progress, and compelled him to relinquish the pursuit of fame for that of health. For this purpose, he sailed for Malaga, where, not being permitted to land, he returned to Gibraltar, only to find a grave.

> "Dying ere scarce he had begun to live."

In the different walks and duties of life, the deceased was admired and respected, by all who knew him. Fraught with the finest feelings of humanity, his heart glowed with the purest friendship, and the tenderest affections of domestic love. His country will feel the loss of his talents; his companions, of his society; but his family, that of a son and a brother.

December 9. At his seat, Fleetsby, Northumberland county, Virgi-

nia, James Henry, Esq., aged 73. This respectable gentleman was a member of the old congress, and within a few years past a judge of the general court bench of that state.

January 9, 1805. At Savannah, at a very advanced age, Dr. Noble Wimerly Jones, after a short and painful illness, to which he submitted with the patience and resignation of a christian.

This gentleman's family were the neighbours of General Oglethorpe, in England, and came to Georgia with its honourable founder, at the earliest period of its settlement, Dr. Jones having borne a commission, in the year 1738, in the regiment commanded by that officer. In the year 1765, he was a member of the legislature of the province, and was then distinguished by his opposition to the memorable stamp act. From 1768 to 1770, he filled the appointment of speaker of the lower house. In 1771, he had become so obnoxious to the government, that, although repeatedly chosen by the house their speaker, he was compelled to relinquish the chair, by an arbitrary exercise of one of the prerogatives contended for by the crown.

When every honourable attempt, on the part of this country at reconciliation had failed, and the oppressive acts of the mother country had reduced America to the sad alternative of surrendering her rights, or making a manly stand in defence of them, Dr. Jones was chosen president of the first provincial congress in this state, which set aside the powers of the royal government. He was afterwards employed in several confidential and important appointments, until the fall of Charleston. On this event, in violation of the terms of capitulation between the American and British generals, he was forced from his country and family, with a number of other patriots, few of whom have survived him, to undergo a rigorous confinement at St. Augustine, until he was exchanged, near the conclusion of the war. Dr. Jones had the happiness to see his country assume a rank among nations, under a republican form of government, and in the full possession of civil and religious liberty, for the attainment of which he had made so many sacrifices. He had also the happiness to see the spot on which Savannah stands, in the course of seventy years, from a wilderness, converted into a flourishing town, perhaps the eighth in the union, as to commercial importance. His amiable manners and unremitting activity, as a physician, endeared him to a large circle of patients: indeed such was his ardour in his profession, that the hours which many persons gave to sleep, he bestowed upon the assistance of the sick. In his domestic relations, as a husband, parent, connection, and master, he was truly exemplary; and those who lived under his roof had daily opportunities of admiring the invariable benignity of his disposition.

His remains, attended by the Union and Medical Societies of Savannah, the clergy of the different denominations, and as great a concourse of citizens, as were ever assembled on a similar occasion, were interred in the family vault in the burial ground of that city, the bells of the Exchange and places of public worship tolling during the funeral, as a particular mark of respect to the deceased.

Thus, in the course of a few weeks, by the deaths of Mr. Clay and Dr. Jones, has that city been deprived of two of the oldest and most valuable citizens: men whose faith in our holy religion was productive of works of kindness, charity, and great public spirit.

20. Miss Susannah Linton, late of Bucks county, Pennsylvania, aged 24 years.

Few, very few indeed, lived more respected, or died more lamented, than our departed young friend. After suffering the most excruciating pain for a long time, she met the grim messenger, Death, with that composure which is the result of a well spent life; depending en-

tirely upon the merits of her Saviour. She was not afraid of launching into death's sable waters, being fully persuaded, that he would put under her his everlasting arms, and land her safe on Canaan's happy shore.

" Say, shall we mourn, because her conflict's o'er?
Say, shall we weep, because she weeps no more?
Oh! what is life, and all this life can give,
We taste, but not enjoy; we breathe, not live,
True joy and real life are fix'd above,
The only objects worthy of our love.
Lament not then, that lov'd Susannah's gone,
Her time of trial's past, her work is done;
Her hope did firmly on her God depend,
She stood Christ's faithful soldier to the end,
And shall that crown of victory obtain,
Which saints expect, and martryrs died to gain."

21. At Charleston, South Carolina, Mrs. Elizabeth Eggleston, a native of Philadelphia, in the twenty-eighth year of her age.

Near Fincastle, Virginia, William Dunkin, at the advanced age of one hundred and twenty-four years, possessed of all his faculties.

24. At Charleston, Massachusetts, Thomas Macdonough, Esq., aged sixty-five, consul of his Britannic majesty for the eastern department of the United States.

At Lexington, Kentucky, on the twenty-first of January, Mr. Peter January, sen., formerly of Philadelphia, an aged and respectable citizen of that town.

26. At his house, in Germantown, Justus Fox, type-founder and printer, in the sixty-ninth year of his age. He was a native of Germany, but came to this country when very young. His memory will long be revered by a large circle of friends and relatives, with whom he lived beloved, and died lamented. The writer of this is conscious that his abilities are incompetent to offer any panegyric that could, in any wise, be adequate to the worth of the deceased, whose heart was a depository of the social virtues in a very eminent degree; philanthropic, benevolent, and kind to all; the rich and poor were alike the objects of his affection; he was humble, meek, and unassuming in his manners; his natural disposition was cheerful; his genius bright, and his fancy lively; his mind, cultivated by grace, was stored with the most useful information; religious conversation was his element; his love of the Saviour was such, that he made his gospel the rule for the government of his faith and practice, the requisite evidence of our love. John xiv. 15. was not lacking with him, for he yielded willing and implicit obedience to all the commands enjoined in the gospel, "looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of his faith," and endeavoured to follow Him who is "the way, the truth, and the life."

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR.

OF his many valuable correspondents, the editor has chiefly refrained from any other kind of notice than is given by a prompt and accurate insertion of their communications. This is the best proof he could give of his gratitude and approbation. Others, whose communications have not been fully adapted to the nature of his work, he has thought it most respectful and agreeable to their authors to pass over in silence.

The writer of the Memoirs of Carwin was influenced to discontinue the publication of that work from a persuasion that the narrative was of too grave and argumentative a cast to be generally amusing. He has, however, received so many and such urgent intreaties to resume the story that he should not be justified in suppressing it any longer. Hereafter it will be continued with regularity.